

Hafa Adai!

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# Saipan Tribune

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## TASTE OF THE MARIANAS

The 24th Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden was a resounding success, with hundreds of CNMI residents as well as tourists trooping to the Garapan Fishing Base for the festivities. The event, which will be held every Saturday this June, showcases the diverse cuisines the CNMI has to offer, local art and artists, and live entertainment. **Story on Page 4**

KIMBERLY B. ESMORES

## TO AID POWER RESTORATION EFFORTS

# CUC sends line crew to Guam

By **FERDIE DE LA TORRE**  
[ferdie\\_delatorre@saipantribune.com](mailto:ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

**T**he CNMI sent off yesterday to Guam 12 members of the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. power line crew—most of them storm response veterans—to assist the Guam Power Authority's restoration of the power distribution after Typhoon Mawar's devastation in Guam.

**'TOUCHBACK' COUNTDOWN**  
Days until  
'touchback rule'  
takes effect on  
Sept. 30, 2023:  
**117**

### RELATED NEWS

CUC power line crew to help Guam restoration efforts. **PAGE 11**

Speaking at a news briefing at the CUC conference room last Friday afternoon, Gov. Arnold I. Palacios said  
**See CUC on Page 4**

## DPS confirms law enforcer resides in home where shooting occurred

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
[kimberly\\_esmores@saipantribune.com](mailto:kimberly_esmores@saipantribune.com)  
REPORTER

As the investigation continues to determine what re-

ally happened on the night of May 21, when a boy was shot in the face in a residence in Kagman, the Department  
**See DPS on Page 4**



THOMAS SHIEH VIA AP

Newborn twins lie next to each other in a hospital in Tamuning, Guam on May 27, 2023. Many, including newborns, remain without electricity as Guam recovers from Typhoon Mawar.

## Born in a typhoon

» **Many, including newborns, remain without electricity as Guam recovers from storm**

By **JENNIFER SINCO KELLEHER**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

**HONOLULU (AP)**—About a week after Typhoon Mawar tore through Guam as the strongest typhoon to hit the U.S. Pacific territory in over  
**See BORN on Page 4**

## TO PROTECT RECOVERY WORKERS

## USDOL to provide worker safety, health experts

**DEDEDO, Guam**—The U.S. Department of Labor will send experts from its Occupational Safety and Health Administration to areas of Guam hard-

est hit by Typhoon Mawar to protect the safety and health of recovery workers as part of the federal response and recovery effort after the storm struck the

island in late May.

OSHA will deploy workplace safety and health experts to Guam to identify and eliminate  
**See USDOL on Page 4**

## INSIDE



### BUSINESS

Bank of Hawaii has initiated financial assistance to help those affected by Typhoon Mawar.

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### ASIA

Authorities began clearing the wreckage of two passenger trains that derailed in east India.

**PAGE 13**



### LIFE & STYLE

A former Playboy model alleges Bill Cosby drugged and sexually assaulted her in 1969.

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## Local

### Cabrera appointed to CPA board

#### » Palacios withdraws appointment of Saures to CEDA board

Former Saipan seaport manager Antonio B. Cabrera has been nominated to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Ports Authority board of directors.

Gov. Arnold I. Palacios has also withdrawn his appointment of Vina Claire Saures Ayuyu to serve as a member of the Commonwealth Economic Development Authority board of directors representing

Saipan, Northern Islands, and Carolinian community.

If confirmed by the Senate, Cabrera, who was nominated to represent Saipan and the Northern Islands on the CPA board, will serve the remaining term of Roman Tudela, which will expire on Oct. 7, 2023. Tudela resigned from the CPA board last January.

Palacios informed Senate

President Edith E. DeLeon Guerrero (D-Saipan) that the nomination shall also serve as a re-appointment of Cabrera to serve a subsequent four-year term, which will expire on Oct. 7, 2027.

Regarding Ayuyu's appointment, the governor did not indicate his reason for withdrawing her nomination. Palacios said a new nomination will be forthcoming.

Palacios nominated Ayuyu last May 18. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

### US Congress passes debt-ceiling bill



Sablan

Delegate Gregorio Kilili C. Sablan (D-MP) said Saturday that the U.S. Congress has passed the bipartisan compromise

bill, H.R. 3746, that raises the limit on how much the federal government may borrow through January 2025.

Sablan said in his e-kilili newsletter that the House of Representatives passed H.R. 3746, or the Fiscal Respon-

sibility Act, on Wednesday night, followed by the Senate Thursday night.

He said this avoids an impending default and protect the country's economic recovery.

The delegate said the bill now heads to President Joseph Biden Jr. who's expected to quickly sign it into law and avert a financial crisis when borrowing authority runs out next week.

He said Biden and House Speaker Kevin McCarthy (R-California) negotiated H.R. 3746, setting a two-year cap that reduces federal

spending by \$1.5 trillion.

Sablan said at the same time, the Fiscal Responsibility Act protects Social Security, Medicare, and Medicaid, and ensures the continuation of critical programs relied upon by hardworking families, students, and veterans.

The delegate earlier stated that defaulting on the debt puts 3,500 Social Security recipients in the Marianas at risk, jeopardizes the CNMI's 26,000 Medicare and Medicaid recipients, and would raise interest rates for anyone who buys a home or car or borrows to expand their business. *(Ferdie de la Torre)*

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# Volunteer vet helps conduct study on Saipan's dogs

By LEIGH GASES

leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

Dr. Kris Anderson is conducting a study on Saipan's dogs to find out whether they have diseases that are not tested for in the clinics.

Currently, dogs brought into the clinic are tested for heartworms, Ehrlichia, Anaplasma, and Lyme disease—the last three of which are from ticks, the first one from mosquitoes.

Anderson is a volunteer vet at the animal clinic being conducted by the Saipan Humane Society at the Saipan Mayor's Animal Shelter in As Perdido.

In their clinic last Wednesday, Anderson showed this reporter what she did as she collected and analyzed blood from someone's pet dog. As of Wednesday, they have tested about 150 dogs so far.

Anderson has 450 test kits from Texas A&M University

and plans on using them all. She is collecting ticks, blood, and feces, and will give it to Texas A&M for them to check when the clinic is over. So far, she has collected specimens from the shelter dogs and the dogs brought in by owners to the clinic.

A student at Texas A&M, Maureen Kelly will conduct this as her PhD project.

No such study has been done in the CNMI before and Anderson said she can't wait to know what could be found out more about Saipan's dogs. "It's going to be this search to see what's

there. I have no idea what we're going to find, but it's going to be interesting. The more we know, the better we can treat these dogs. ...I like what we're doing here and I'm super excited."

Anderson did say that the study could take months.

According to Lauren Cabrera, Saipan Humane Society founder, it is important to do a few things to keep your pet as healthy as possible: vaccinate, deworm, spay/neuter, flea/tick prevention to protect from disease carried by fleas and ticks, and heartworm testing and prevention.

"Heartworms are actual worms that grow inside the heart and can give your dog heart failure over the years. It is easy to test for and prevent. We are seeing a lot of heartworm positive dogs. Heartworm testing and prevention (or treatment) is very important, and something we can offer through SHS," she said. "Different tick diseases can cause many problems in dogs also, and we can protect against this by keeping dogs on preventative medicine like Bravecto, which kills ticks."

"Other illnesses we are exploring include leptospirosis.

This can be prevented by a leptospirosis vaccine, which we have available. The vaccines we have available also protect against other important illnesses such as parvovirus, which we have seen many cases of already in the last month and is almost always deadly to puppies if not aggressively treated with supportive care."

The clinic will last until Wednesday, June 14. Their schedule is now full, but you can check out their website [www.saipanhumane.org/](http://www.saipanhumane.org/) and request a future spay/neuter service or other service.



LEIGH GASES

Dr. Kris Anderson draws a blood sample from a pet dog as Dr. Whitney Collins holds her steady during the clinic last Wednesday at the Saipan Mayor's Animal Shelter in As Perdido.

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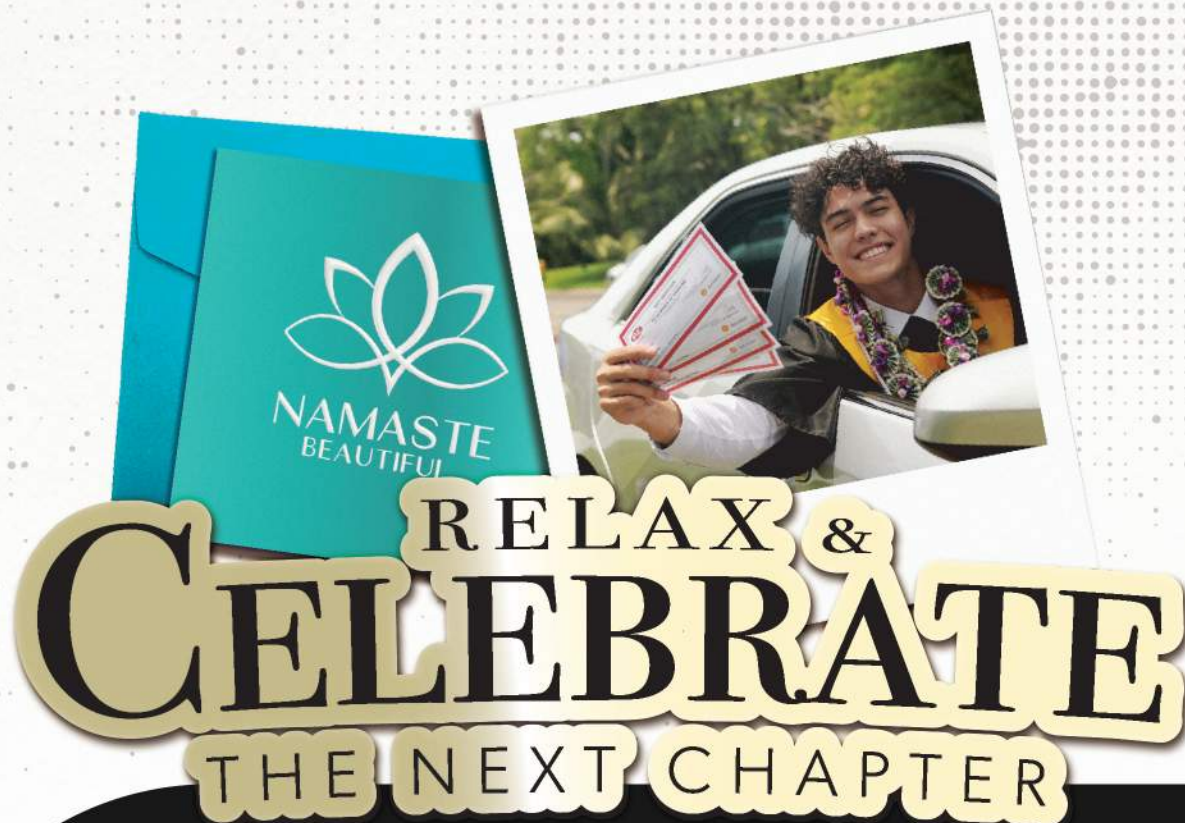
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# Taste of the Marianas celebrates 24 years

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
kimberly\_esmores@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

One of the most anticipated events of the year, the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of the Marianas International Food Festival & Beer Garden, went off with a bang over the weekend with insane lines, a plethora of delicious dishes, competitions, free beef, and more.

Streets leading to the Garapan Fishing Base were bustling last Saturday night and traffic was terrible, with cars lined up past Marianas Eye Institute as community members were eager to take part in the Taste of the Marianas festival that is being held every Saturday this month.

Inside the festival grounds at the Garapan Fishing Base, getting around proved to be a challenge as it was so cramped and lines were long as people were eager to taste some of the delicious cuisines the CNMI has to offer (like fresh, grass-fed roasted cow that was flown in by the

Tinian Mayor’s Office).

Despite the challenges faced maneuvering in and out of the festival grounds, it’s not necessarily a bad thing, said Marianas Visitors Authority’s managing director Chris Concepcion. In fact, Concepcion said the long lines and traffic only means one thing—a successful Taste of the Marianas festival.

“It’s an amazing opening night, the crowd is lively, the lines are really long and we’re just pleased to see such an amazing turn out for the first night of the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of the Marianas festival. We are looking forward to the next three nights because it’s just going to get bigger and better,” he said.

*Saipan Tribune* managed to speak to some festival goers and a group of tourists who attended the festival last Saturday night found it a fun and novel experience, something that was definitely new to them. In addition, despite it being hot and crowded, they thought the food was great and

the live entertainment was awesome, and they enjoyed their time.

Another group of local teens said they were happy to be at the festival.

“The food is always good, and we get to see the different options the island has to offer so, we’re happy to be here. Plus, we get to hang with our friends,” they said.

Aside from the food and live entertainment, the Taste of the Marianas is known for its competitions.

This year’s festival kicked off with a cooking competition that highlights the famous Chamorro cuisine called “Kadun Pika” or spicy chicken.

In total, seven teams joined the competition but only one took home bragging rights as the 24<sup>th</sup> Annual Taste of the Marianas cook-off champion—they were Oh My Grill represented by Eric Palacios and Kent Kalen.

The other competitors were Hula Pika, Madge, Humble Marianas, Team Oleai, Talayeru, and Distorted.

# P-EBT sistribution for summer 2022

The Nutrition Assistance Program, in conjunction with the Public School System Child Nutrition Program, has announced the P-EBT distribution schedule for summer 2022 (school year 2021-2022).

Children enrolled in public and private school Grade K to 12 are considered school-aged children and PSS Early Head Start and Head Start are

qualified for the summer 2022 P-EBT. Children below 6 years of age who are NAP clients during the summer months of June, July, or August 2022 will be entitled for the summer benefit.

The summer P-EBT distribution on Saipan will be issued based on the last name of the parent or guardian. The following is the schedule for P-EBT pick-up:

First Letter of Last Name	Date	Day
‘A’ to ‘B’	June 09 <sup>th</sup>	Friday
‘C’ to ‘D’	June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Saturday
‘E’ to ‘K’	June 12 <sup>th</sup>	Monday
‘L’ to ‘N’	June 13 <sup>th</sup>	Tuesday
‘O’ to ‘R’	June 14 <sup>th</sup>	Wednesday
‘S’ to ‘T’	June 15 <sup>th</sup>	Thursday
‘U’ to ‘Z’	June 16 <sup>th</sup>	Friday
OPEN DAY	June 20 <sup>th</sup> - September 30 <sup>th</sup>	

Benefits will be issued from 8am to 3pm daily during the scheduled dates of P-EBT distribution. ‘Open Day’ is the designated date for households who were not able to pick up their benefits based on their scheduled date. Households are advised to follow the schedule accordingly.

Households will be required to provide valid photo identification such as a driver’s license, passport, municipal ID, U.S. permanent resident card, etc. The identity of the parent or legal guardian will be verified against the list of eligible households.

P-EBT benefits will be provided through a drive-thru distribution service at the NAP office in As Lito. To ensure a smooth process, households will be required to follow the traffic flow for the drive-thru procedure.

The separate distribution schedule for Tinian and Rota will be facilitated by the Department of Community and Cultural Affairs offices on Tinian and Rota.

For inquiries regarding the P-EBT program please call the P-EBT Call Center at 670-287-3063/3064/3065. **(PR)**

## BORN

From Page 1

two decades, most of the island remained without electricity and the governor appealed for patience during a recovery process expected to take at least a month.

Even though Mawar caused no deaths or catastrophic destruction, officials said that as of Wednesday only 28% of power had been restored on the oppressively hot and humid island. About 44% of cell towers were functional Wednesday, and about half the water system was operational, Bob Fenton, regional administrator for the Federal Emergency Manage-

ment Agency told The Associated Press via phone from Guam.

Mawar briefly made landfall as a Category 4 storm late on May 24 on the northern tip of the island of roughly 150,000 people, flipping cars, tearing off roofs and leaving trees bare.

There have been long lines for gas and officials estimate it will be four to six weeks before power is fully restored. FEMA did not yet know exactly how many homes were destroyed. High school graduations were indefinitely postponed across Guam.

Nearly 3,400 people registered for individual assistance, a number Fenton expects to rise dramatically as

communication networks improve.

Fenton has seen storm-prone Guam through numerous typhoons in his 26 years working with FEMA in the Pacific islands.

“Guam has done a good job at hardening parts of their system,” since Super Typhoon Pongsona struck the island in 2002, he said.

Since then, wooden power poles have been replaced with ones made of concrete or composite material, he said. Homes are also mostly made of concrete, even though there are still less sturdy structures with tin roofs.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## DPS

From Page 1

of Public Safety has officially confirmed that a law enforcement officer resides in the home, meaning a service-issued firearm could be the weapon in question.

In an interview with DPS Commissioner Clement Bermudes last week, he shared some updates regarding the ongoing investigation into the shooting incident in Kagman in May.

Bermudes confirmed that a law enforcement officer resides in the home and that a service-issued

firearm was in the home during the incident. Whether the gun involved in the shooting incident was that service firearm remains a question, though.

“It’s part of the investigation whether the serviceman properly stored his weapon away. The challenging part [of this investigation] is that the home had similar caliber weapons to a service-issued firearm. That’s why we can’t outrightly pinpoint whose weapon it was. If there was no other weapon in the home, it would clearly be a service-issued weapon, but that’s not the case,” he said.

In addition, Bermudes said that DPS is collaborating with the Office

of the Attorney General’s criminal division in this matter.

“The investigation, on our end, is moving forward. We’re in communication with the Attorney General’s Office now. That’s the collaboration we have to maintain because part of the criminal investigation process is to keep the prosecutor informed of our progress,” he said.

Meanwhile, DPS remains in contact with the Guam Police Department in terms of the ballistics analysis sought in this case.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)

## USDOL

From Page 1

nate serious hazards and help prevent injuries among employers and workers. The agency’s outreach will focus on exposures to heat illness, and fall, struck-by, crushing and electrical hazards as well as the risks of carbon monoxide poisoning when using temporary electrical generators.

“OSHA safety and health experts on the ground in Guam will provide outreach and technical assistance needed to help people as they begin recovery work in areas most affected by Typhoon Mawar,” said OSHA’s

regional administrator James Wulff in San Francisco. “People involved in storm recovery and cleanup must follow proper procedures to protect themselves from the many risks that exist after a natural disaster.”

As part of the recovery process, OSHA has temporarily suspended programmed and planned enforcement inspections in heavily impacted areas. The agency, however, retains the authority to perform inspections related to fatalities, catastrophic incidents, employee complaints, incidents involving life-altering injuries and where employers repeatedly expose employees to serious hazards during

cleanup and recovery.

Employers and employees in Guam may call OSHA’s toll-free hotline at 800-321-OSHA (6742), the Honolulu Area Office at 808-541-2680, or go to the OSHA Hurricane Preparedness and Response website for further assistance. Additionally, OSHA’s On-Site Consultation Program offers no-cost and confidential occupational safety and health services to small and medium-sized businesses and employers can contact the Guam Onsite Consultation Program at 671-300-4618 or the CNMI OSHA Onsite Consultation Program at 670-287-7531 to schedule a visit. **(OSHA)**

## CUC

From Page 1

the CUC team is ready to go down and help the CNMI’s brothers and sisters in Guam.

Palacios said the CUC crew will be bringing with them some CNMI flags that they will fly, similar to when Guam flew their flags when they assisted the Commonwealth during recovery efforts after typhoons.

“We want you to be proud of who you are, who you are representing. And we’re very proud of you. We are very confident in your ability to go down and help our brothers and sisters in Guam,” the governor told the 12-man CUC crew.

Mawar’s powerful winds and strong rains last May 24 severely damaged Guam’s power system, affecting the power supply to over 52,000 customers.

Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang also attended the press briefing last Friday, while Fr. Rey Rosal led a prayer to bless the members of the crew.

CUC board chair Janice A. Tenorio announced that GPA will be taking care of the CUC team and will be putting them at the Hyatt Guam.

Acting CUC executive director Betty G. Terlaje said the CUC crew will be in Guam for about 30 days. Should an extension be needed, then they will extend it again for another 30 days.

“We have backup for the next batch,” Terlaje said.

She said this collaborative effort is the result of a mutual agreement between CUC and GPA for emergency assistance after a major disaster.

Terlaje said CUC first focused its efforts on Rota for eight to nine days to

restore power and water services to its customers after Mawar’s destruction.

With Rota’s utilities now fully restored and operations back to normal, Terlaje said it is time to lend a helping hand to “our brothers and sisters on Guam,” just as GPA extended their assistance to CUC after Typhoon Soude-lor in 2015 and Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018 destroyed the power distribution system on Saipan and Tinian.

“We recognize the importance of standing together with our sister utility companies in the Marianas and Pacific region during times of adversity,” Terlaje said.

She thanked GPA general manager John Benavente and the rest of the GPA family for their collaboration, hospitality, and for welcoming CUC’s line crew during this effort.

“Their support enables us to reciprocate the assistance we have received in the past, strengthening the bond between our utilities and reinforcing the spirit of unity in the face of natural disasters,” she said.

Michael Itibus Kukkun, a foreman and leader of the 12-man CUC crew, said in an interview that 10 of them are from Saipan and two are from Rota.

Kukkun said it will be his second time as a member of the CUC crew to assist Guam as he was also with the CUC team that was sent to Guam after Typhoon Pongsona’s destruction in 2002.

Kukkun said many of this current CUC team members will have this trip as their first time to help Guam, but most of them are veterans to storm response.

A longer version of this story is available at [www.saipantribune.com](http://www.saipantribune.com)



# 77th Liberation Day theme: 'Resilience Rising'



LEIGH GASES

The 2023 Liberation Day Committee, including Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho, standing, fourth from left, and LDC president and chair Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero, seated fourth from left, convened Thursday morning for a press conference in the mayor's conference room to reveal the 77th Liberation Day theme and July 4th celebration details.

By LEIGH GASES  
leigh\_gases@saipantribune.com  
REPORTER

This year's Liberation Day theme will be "Resilience Rising" and this year's parade will be led by Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang as the grand marshal.

These were disclosed last Thursday at the Saipan Mayor's Office conference room when the 2023 Liberation Day Committee held its first news briefing, during which they also introduced this year's committee members, the duration of the festivities, the parade, and a new contest.

The theme "Resilience Rising" for the 77th Liberation Day was chosen because the islands have dealt with Typhoon Soudelor, Super Typhoon Yutu, the pandemic, and the recent devastation of Typhoon Mawar

on Rota and Guam.

"We were blessed to have escaped the worst of Mawar, and your Saipan Mayor's Office and the 2023 Liberation Day Committee are prepared now more than ever to give our community something to look forward to this summer," said Saipan Mayor Ramon "RB" Camacho.

The 2023 Fourth of July Liberation Day on Saipan is set to begin on Saturday, July 1, to July 30, 2023, at the

Garapan Fishing Base, highlighted by food, live entertainment, a parade, fireworks, and other festivities.

The parade is on Tuesday, July 4, and is expected to start at 10am. Once again, there will be no royal court this year, but there will be one for next year's celebration.

There will be a Liberation Day Song Contest and a Battle of the Bands, which is the first time these contests will be held

as part of the annual festivities. Auditions will open today, June 5, and end on Friday, June 23. For the song contest, the song lyrics are to be written and melodies are to be composed by solo artists, duets, or bands. Initial tape of the artists must be uploaded to YouTube of them singing and submitted to liberationdaysong@gmail.com.

The 2023 LDC consists of president and chair Nadine C. Deleon Guerrero and mem-

bers Bridget Maratita-Deleon Guerrero, Frances M. Sablan, Richelle Agpoon, Gordon Marciano, Jeanette Sarabia, Carla Sablan, and Joy Maratita. The 2023 Steering Committee includes Wilfredo Abu, Annamae Adaza, Diane Lumapas, Priscilla Iakopo, Natasha Tomokane, and Teresita Camacho.

"I humbly ask the business community, the nonprofit community, and our government, the legislators, to please contribute. Working together, we all rise together," said Camacho.

"We understand that we are recovering economically. We

do have a financial crisis that is upon us and, despite that, we feel like we need to come together and bring some happiness, some cheer, some positivity back in the community, because it's been a long time coming with all the worrisome news. I feel like Liberation Day is a break in that cloud, so to speak," said Deleon Guerrero.

The 2024 LDC will continue to hold more press conferences to update the community as the festivities draw closer.

Liberation Day in the CNMI commemorates the anniversary of the release of local residents from protective custody of the U.S. military at Camp Chalan Kanoa on July 4, 1946.



## NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION

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### RENOVATION OF CHCC-CGC SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT AND RECOVERY AND TRANSITIONAL LIVING CENTER BUILDINGS

Project Package will be available on June 05, 2023, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Central Office Conference Room located in Garapan, Saipan on **June 13, 2023, 10:00 a.m.** In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at officemanager@nmhc.gov.net during business hours, 7:30am - 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS  
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED "MARCIE" M. TOMOKANE  
Chairwoman  
NMHC Board of Directors



## COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION



### INVITATION FOR BIDS CUC-IFB-23-022

#### SUPPLY AND DELIVERY OF FIVE (5) LIGHT-DUTY VEHICLES

The Office of the Executive Director for the Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids to supply and deliver five (5) light-duty vehicles to Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, to assist with the project management and inspections for the CUC Water and Wastewater systems upgrades and improvements.

**This project is funded by a United States of Environment Protection Agency (USEPA) grant.**

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of **\$200.00** (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

**One (1) original and Five (5) hard copies** must be submitted in a sealed envelope marked "**CUC-IFB-23-022, Supply and Delivery of Five (5) Light-Duty Vehicles**" to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 20, 2023** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before the submission deadline. Late submissions and conditional offers will not be considered.

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification should be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

All bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid or supply under the contract. The IFB does not commit CUC to award a contract, to pay any cost incurred in the preparation of the bid under this request, or to procure or contract for goods. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed as per the CUC Procurement Regulations.

**Questions or requests for clarification** will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing **no later than 10:00 AM (ChST) on June 1, 2023**, to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Administrator, via email manny.sablan@cucgov.org and Christie Sablan at christie.sablan@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids for any reason and waive any defects in the said bids, if in its sole opinion, to do so would be in the best interest of CUC. All bids submitted shall become the property of CUC.

BETTINA G. TERLAJE  
Acting Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN  
Purchasing Administrator

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS :  
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, :  
Plaintiff, : Civil  
vs. : Action Case  
T.R.C., LTD., : No. 23-0023  
HARUMI SHIRAGA, :  
KOUSHI FUJIWARA, : SUMMONS  
AND SHIMA OSADA :  
Defendants. :

#### TO SHIMA OSADA:

YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff's attorney, Seman Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023

By: /s/  
Clerk of the Superior Court

## COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY



MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.  
PO BOX 501055 SAIPAN-MP-96950  
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-6862  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: CPA.ADMN@PTICOM.COM • WEBSITE: HTTPS://WWW.CNMI-PORTS.COM



### AMENDED #2 REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport "Retail Concession" CPA-RFP-005-23 for: CPA Concession No. RCA-2022-01

The Commonwealth Ports Authority ("CPA" or "Authority") is soliciting proposals for the award of one (1) concession granting the privilege to provide retail services to the travelling public at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport ("Retail Concession"). The successful proposer will be expected to provide retail services in accordance with its concession and concession agreement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport for a period of Three (3) years upon entering into a concession agreement with the Authority.

The date of issuance of CPA-RFP-005-23 is **April 20, 2023**, and it can be obtained at the issuing office: CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950, Second floor of Arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport or at the administration office at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport.

Proposals must be addressed to Commonwealth Ports Authority, Attn: Retail Concessions Evaluation Committee, CPA Administration Office, Saipan International Airport, P.O. Box 501055, Saipan, MP 96950; and submitted to and received by the CPA Administration Office (second floor of arrival terminal at the Saipan International Airport) **by or before 12:00 p.m. (noon) on June 9, 2023**, at which time the proposal period shall expire. Proposals must be accompanied with a non-refundable administrative fee of \$50.00. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, or cashier's check payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority to defray the costs associated with handling and considering the proposal. Proposals are not required to include a prepaid minimum concession fee.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to cancel this RFP and to reject any and all proposals in accordance with its Concession Regulations (NMIAC Chapter 40-70).

/s/  
CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO  
Executive Director



# Bacani earns President’s List honors at Utah Tech U

ST. GEORGE, UT— Vinson Bacani of Saipan has been named as one of the 1,051 students who were awarded inclusion on the President’s List for the spring 2023 semester at Utah Tech University. Bacani joins nearly 10%

of students who earned President’s List recognition. Inclusion indicates students’ strong commitment to their academic pursuits, as they must achieve a semester GPA of 3.9 or higher for the President’s List. Students are also required to complete a minimum of 15 credits. “I’d like to congratulate all of

our students whose hard work has paid off and earned them placement on the President’s List,” Dr. Michael Lacourse, provost and vice president of academic affairs, said. “I’m proud of our students for taking advantage of all the opportunities available here at Utah Tech.” To learn more about Utah Tech University, please visit [utahtech.edu](http://utahtech.edu). (PR)

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### CUC Rota resumes normal operations

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. has resumed normal operations on Rota.

According to Update #17 issued last Friday, 100% of all feeders and laterals on Rota are now energized.

Also, 100% of water services are now online.

The boil water notice has

now been lifted. Water distribution samples taken from the Rota water system on June 1 were tested and test results are “all clear” and safe for use.

Two CUC customers remain without power service due to electrical repairs pending on the customers side. Repairs to the damaged secondary lines and restorations of streetlights are ongoing.

(Saipan Tribune)

### MHS Rhythm’n Harmony presents concert

The Marianas High School Rhythm’n Harmony Glee Club is proud to present “Pure Imagination,” a glee concert, on June 6 and 7, 2023, at the Marianas High School Gymnasium. Tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for adults. Start time is 7pm each night.

The students of the MHS Glee Club have been performing for various social events

around the island and are now proud to present their first concert of 2023. With months of daily 2-hour rehearsals, this concert will showcase the glee club’s repertoire and will help shine the spotlight on some of MHS’ aspiring student performers. (PR)

### Water service interruption for the Dandan TSA

There will be a scheduled water service on Wednesday, June 7, 2023, at the Dandan Tank Service Area, from 8am to 5pm.

■ Area(s) affected: Partial area of Dandan; Holiday Dr., Independence Lp., Natibu Pl., and Lower Dandan

■ Purpose: The scheduled water outage is to permanently cut, cap and abandon the old 4-inch distribution line connected to the 8-inch PVC transmission line that will be abandoned under the Isley Booster-2 transmission and Booster Pump Project at the intersection of Chalan Tun Herman Pan Road and Flame Tree Road.

■ Roadway(s) affected: Intersection of Chalan Tun Herman Pan Road and Flame Tree Road. For the safety of our crew, motorists are advised to use caution while driving in the area.

Customers in the area will experience low to no water pressure. Allow one to two hours after for water to pressurize back into the main line.

For more information, contact the CUC Hotline at (670) 236-4333 or monitor our Facebook page for the latest updates (<https://www.facebook.com/CommonwealthUtilitiesCorporation/>). (PR)

### 4.6-magnitude quake in Pagan region

At 8:57pm on June 3 2023, a report of a 4.6-magnitude earthquake occurred at 18.340°N 145.847°E in the Pagan region, NMI. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no tsunami warnings or advisories that were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at (670) 237-8000. (PR)

### 5.2-magnitude quake in Guam region

At 3:25pm on June 2, 2023, a report of a 5.2-magnitude earthquake occurred in the Guam region. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

### 4.6-magnitude quake in Pagan region

At 8:51am on June 2, 2023, a report of a 4.6-magnitude earthquake occurred at the Pagan region of the Northern Mariana Islands. Currently, there are no reports of injuries or damages and no tsunami warnings or advisories were issued by the Pacific Tsunami Warning Center. For more information, contact the CNMI EOC State Warning Point at 237-8000. (PR)

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.  
PO BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP • 96950  
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500 / 1 • FAX: (1-670) 234-5962  
E-MAIL ADDRESS: [CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM](mailto:CPA.ADMIN@PTICOM.COM) • WEBSITE: [WWW.CNMPORTS.COM](https://WWW.CNMPORTS.COM)

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

PREVENTIVE MAINTENANCE SERVICE AND REPAIRS  
FOR ACCESS CONTROL, VIDEO MONITORING, AND GATE OPERATOR  
AT THE FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT  
PROJECT NO. CPA-RFP-010-23

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (Authority) is inviting qualified and experienced contractors specializing in airport security systems to submit sealed proposal, subject to the terms and conditions of this Request for Proposal (the “RFP”), and other contract provisions, for the preventive maintenance services and repairs of the Authority access control, video monitoring, and gate operator at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport.

The RFP Package is available beginning May 15, 2023, at the Authority’s Accounting Office, 2nd Floor, Departure Terminal Building, Saipan International Airport upon payment of an administrative fee of \$100.00 payable to the “Commonwealth Ports Authority”. **Payment shall be by cash, certified cashier’s check, postal money order, or credit card.**

<b>SCHEDULE OF EVENTS:</b>	
RFP Issued Date	May 15, 2023
Pre-proposal Meeting	June 02, 2023 (10:00 A.M.)
Deadline for Questions and/or Clarification	June 05, 2023
Deadline for RFP submission	June 13, 2023 (4:00 PM)

Qualified proposers shall submit their proposals sealed and marked on the cover package outside as follows: “Proposal for Preventive Maintenance Service and Repairs to Access Control, Video Monitoring, and Gate Operator at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, Project No. CPA-RFP-010-23”. Proposals must be submitted no later than **4:00 p.m. Local Time, June 13, 2023**, to the Office of the Executive Director at the Saipan International Airport. Proposals submitted by facsimile (fax) transmission will not be considered. Any proposals received after the proposal submittal deadline shall be returned to the proposer unopened.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted if sufficient justification exist that awarding the project would not be in the best interest of the CPA.

**FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY.**

EDWARD B MENDIOLA  
Deputy Executive Director

Date

PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

INVITATION TO BID (ITB)  
ITB23-CHCC/RHC-015

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 6TH, 2023    TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

ROTA HEALTH CENTER  
“LEASE OF VEHICLES”

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE ([WWW.CHCC.HEALTH](http://WWW.CHCC.HEALTH)). ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/S/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/S/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

Bureau of Environmental and Coastal Quality

Division of Coastal Resources Management  
P.O. Box 501304, Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: (670) 664-8300; Fax: (670) 664-8315  
[www.dcrm.gov.mp](http://www.dcrm.gov.mp)

El D. Cabrera  
Administrator

Richard V. Salas  
Director, DCRM

MEETING OF THE CRM AGENCY OFFICIALS

Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 11, Governor Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Governor David M. Apatang through the Division of Coastal Resources Management (DCRM) hereby give notice that a CRM Agency Officials meeting will be held on **Tuesday, June 13, 2023 at 10:00AM** at the DCRM Learning Center, Suite 301, Gualo Rai Center II, on Chalan Pale Arnold Road in Lower Gualo Rai, Saipan.

Virtual public participation will continue and encouraged via video conferencing through Zoom link: <https://zoom.us/j> (Meeting ID: 6706648315) or join via telephone by calling the DCRM office at (670) 664-8300 for connection assistance and most updated information as Zoom meeting access code may change.

AGENDA

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS

A. Call to Order  
B. Roll Call  
C. Adoption of Agenda  
D. Adoption of May 17, 2023 Meeting Minutes

II. PUBLIC COMMENTS

III. PERMIT APPLICATION REVIEW

1) CRM Permit Application No. CRM-MS2022-0006  
Project: SUGAR DOCK RECONSTRUCTION & DREDGING PROJECT Applicant: DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS(Action Agency) & DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC LANDS (Owner)  
he Departments of Public Works (DPW) and Public Lands (DPL) are proposing to reconstruct the Sugar Dock and boat launching ramp facilities to include dredging. The project is situated on public land identified as Lot No. 058 H 02 in Susupe, Saipan.  
a. Agencies' Discussions  
b. Agencies' Final Determination

2) CRM Permit Application No. SMS-2003-X-007-A1  
Project: DEMOLITION & RECONSTRUCTION OF THE SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT COMMUTER TERMINAL BUILDING  
Applicant: COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY  
The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is proposing to demolish the existing commuter terminal building to construct a new building within the same footprint of the original building. The project is situated on CPA's property identified as Lot No. 028 K 11.  
a. Agencies' Discussions  
b. Agencies' Final Determination

IV. OTHER MATTERS

1) Adoption of proposed amendments to NMIAC Chapter 15-10 to amend the DCRM Permitting Fee Regulations.  
2) Authorization for DCRM Director to promulgate proposed regulation amendments.

V. ADJOURNMENT

All interested persons are welcome to attend and submit written or oral testimony regarding the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session).

/s/ RICHARD V. SALAS  
Director, DCRM

Office of the Mayor

Municipality of Tinian and Aguiguan

NOTICE

This is to inform the general public that Mayor Edwin P. Aldan will be appointing one of the following qualified individuals to serve as Commissioner on the Tinian Casino Gaming Control Commission:

Frederick A. Dela Cruz

Jose M. Dela Cruz

Donald M. Hofschneider

David M. Cing

Evelyn B. Manglona

Please call the Tinian Mayor’s Office at 433-1800 or email [bernietiq@gmail.com](mailto:bernietiq@gmail.com) should you have any questions or comments.

### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS •  
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, •  
Plaintiff, • Civil  
vs. • Action Case  
No. 23-0023  
T.R.C., LTD.,  
HARUMI SHIRAGA, • SUMMONS  
KOUSHI FUJIWARA, •  
AND SHIMA OSADA •  
Defendants. •

TO T.R.C., LTD.:  
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff’s attorney, Sema Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023  
By: /s/  
Clerk of the Superior Court



# Triple J, MACS team up to send relief items to Rota

Triple J Saipan, Inc. and Micronesia Air Cargo Services teamed up to send a pallet of food items to Rota last Friday afternoon in support of Typhoon Mawar relief efforts.

Jay Santos, general manager of Triple J Payless Superfresh and Truckload Store, and his team put together a pallet of food items and coordinated distribution of the items on Rota through the Archdiocese of Chalan Kanoa under the administration of Bishop Ryan Jimenez and Fr. Nelson Plohimon.

“We’re lucky to have wonderful members of our community like John and Paula Stewart who gladly sent these items to Rota free of charge,” Santos said. “We’re also thankful for Bishop Ryan Jimenez and Fr. Nelson Plohimon [on] Rota for assisting with the distribution of these items to those who need it the most.”

MACS provides professional transport solutions, including air freight and logistics services to businesses and individuals throughout the region, to include regular on-demand air freight services in the Mariana Islands.

MACS CEO John Stewart said his company provided the air freight free of charge as part of their mission to serve the CNMI.

“The people of Rota aren’t just our customers, they’re our friends and they’re our family,” Stewart said. “We were happy to help with the transport when we got the call from Triple J.”

For more information about Micronesian Air Cargo Services, visit [macsaircargo.com](http://macsaircargo.com) or call (670) 288-6227 in Saipan or call (671) 475-5532 in Guam. (PR)



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

From left, representatives of Triple J Saipan and Micronesia Air Cargo Services stand beside the pallet of food items at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport before the food items are shipped to Rota in support of Typhoon Mawar relief efforts on Friday, June 2.

## Immigration help available to those affected by Mawar

**TAMUNING, Guam**—U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services reminds the public that the agency offers immigration services that may help those affected by certain unforeseen circumstances such as Typhoon Mawar that impacted Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Various measures such as extending nonimmigrant stays, rescheduling appointments, expedited processing and adjudication and fee waivers, may be available on a case-by-case basis upon request.

To request assistance, call the USCIS Contact Center at 800-375-5283.

To learn more about immigration relief during unforeseen circumstances, visit our Immigration Relief in Emergencies or Unforeseen Circumstances webpage.

USCIS also reminds applicants to update their address with USCIS to ensure timely receipt of all correspondence and benefits. Changing an address with the U.S. Postal Service will not change the address with USCIS.

USCIS encourages those in need of immigration advice to work with an authorized provider and be cautious of immigration scams. To learn more about avoiding scams, visit [uscis.gov/avoidscams](http://uscis.gov/avoidscams).

(USCIS)

**NORTHERN MARIANAS HOUSING CORPORATION**  
P.O. BOX 500514, Saipan, MP 96950-0514  
Email: [nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp](mailto:nmhc@nmhc.gov.mp) • Website: <http://www.nmhc.gov.net>

### INVITATION FOR BID (IFB) NMHC IFB 2023-007

(This ad is paid for NMHC with HUD funds)

**BID SUBMISSION DATE:** July 05, 2023, 2:00 p.m.

#### PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM (PSS) TINIAN ELEMENTARY SCHOOL REHABILITATION PROJECT, BUILDING K AND CAFETERIA INTERIOR

Project Package will be available on June 05, 2023, at the NMHC Central Office in Garapan, Saipan, during regular working hours (7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.) Monday thru Friday except CNMI holidays. A non-refundable payment of One-Hundred Dollars (\$100.00) is required for each set of the project package. Payment must be made payable to NMHC and receipt of payment must be presented when obtaining the project package at the reception counter.

The provisions on the NMHC Procurement regulations, NMIAC 100-60-725 AND 100-60-730 Prohibiting Gratuities, Kickbacks and Contingent Fees shall apply.

A Mandatory Pre-Bid Conference will be held at the NMHC Field Office in Tinian located at the NMC Campus in Tinian on June 15, 2023, 2:00 p.m. In addition, a Mandatory site Visit/Inspection of the project site will be conducted immediately after the Pre-Bid Conference. Failure to attend both the Mandatory Pre-bid conference and the Mandatory site Visit/Inspection will be considered a non-responsive bidder.

For more information, contact Mr. Jacob Muna, Office Manager, at (670) 234-9447 or via email at [officemanager@nmhc.gov.net](mailto:officemanager@nmhc.gov.net) during business hours, 7:30am – 4:30pm Monday through Friday, except CNMI holidays.

/s/ JESSE S. PALACIOS  
Corporate Director

/s/ MERCED “MARCIE” M. TOMOKANE  
Chairwoman  
NMHC Board of Directors

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

**INVITATION TO BID (ITB)**  
**ITB23-CHCC/HPP/PHEPP-014**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JULY 6TH, 2023 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

**HOSPITAL PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM/  
PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS PROGRAM  
“LEASE OF VEHICLES”**

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS INVITATION TO BID FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.HEALTH]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

THE CHCC RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REJECT ANY AND ALL PROPOSAL AND TO WAIVE ANY IMPERFECTIONS IN ANY PROPOSAL, IF TO DO SO SHALL BE IN THE INTEREST OF THE CHCC. ALL PROPOSALS SHALL BECOME THE EXCLUSIVE PROPERTY OF THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION.

/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**  
COMMONWEALTH HEALTHCARE CORPORATION

**REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP)**  
**RFP23-CHCC/LABORATORY-013A**

**“ADDENDUM”**  
**Extension of Submission Date**

SUBMISSION DEADLINE: JUNE 12th, 2023 TIME: 10:00AM (CHST)

**“LABORATORY EXPANSION PROJECT #2”**  
(Coordinate, Design, Oversight Monitoring and Construction) for CHC Hospital / Laboratory Department

INTERESTED PARTIES CAN DOWNLOAD THIS REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FROM THE CHCC WEBSITE [WWW.CHCC.HEALTH]. ONCE AT THE SITE, NAVIGATE TO **REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS** TAB ON THE LEFT NAVIGATION BAR. CLICK ON THE URL FOR THIS RFP. YOU WILL BE REQUIRED TO ENTER DATA TO ALLOW US TO TRACK ALL REQUESTS FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY.

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/s/ ESTHER L. MUNA  
CHCC CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

/s/ CORA P. ADA  
DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT & SUPPLY

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

In the  
Matter of the  
Petition for the  
Change of  
Name of:  
**ANNA EAGLE  
– ODEN**  
Petitioner :

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on July 5, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. in Courtroom 217A, before Associate Judge Teresa Kim-Tenorio.  
Dated this 16th day of May, 2023.

Patrick V. Diaz  
Clerk of Court  
/s/  
By: Deputy Clerk of Court

#### IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

GILL BLAS :  
CONDOMINIUM OWNERS  
ASSOCIATION, :  
Plaintiff, : Civil  
vs. : Action Case  
T.R.C., LTD., : No. 23-0023  
HARUMI SHIRAGA, :  
KOUSSEI FUJIWARA, AND :  
SHIMA OSADA :  
Defendants. : SUMMONS

**TO HARUMI SHIRAGA:**  
YOU ARE HEREBY SUMMONED and notified to file any answer you wish to make to the Complaint, a copy of which is on file with the Court, within thirty (30) days after service of the Summons upon you, and to deliver or mail a copy of your answer to the Plaintiff's attorney, Seman Law Offices, LLC, whose physical address is JET Realty Building, Suite 204, Gualo Rai, Saipan and whose mailing address is P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950 as soon as practical after filing your answer or sending it to the Clerk of Courts for filing.

Your answer should be in writing and filed with the Clerk of this Court at Susupe, Saipan, MP 96950. It may be prepared for you by your counsel and sent to the Clerk of Court by messenger or Mail. It is not necessary for you to appear personally until further notice. If you fail to file an answer in accordance with this Summons, Judgement by Default may be taken against you for relief in the Complaint.

Dated: February 13, 2023

By: /s/  
Clerk of the Superior Court

**Commonwealth  
Zoning Board**

**June 8, 2023 | 10:00 AM**  
Saipan Zoning Office – Enforcement Section  
511 Middle Road, Chalan Laulau Saipan, MP 96950  
Tel: 234-9661/2 • Fax: 234-9666

**SPECIAL MEETING  
AGENDA**

**A. Preliminary Matters**

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Adoption of Meeting Agenda
4. Public Comments

**B. Report of the Administrator**

1. 2023 Fiscal Year Budget
2. 2024 Fiscal Year Budget
3. Financial Report
4. Personnel Report

**C. New Business**

1. Election of Officers
  - i. Chair
  - ii. Vice-Chair
  - iii. Secretary

**D. Old Business**

1. None

**E. Executive Session**

**F. Miscellaneous**

**G. Adjournment**



# Opinion

Hafa Adail

## Saipan Tribune

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### EDITORIAL

## Theocracy's foot in the door

When the U.S. Supreme Court last year ruled, in effect, that a high school football coach who led his team in Christian prayer at the end of games had a First Amendment right to use the public school system to promote his religion, critics warned that this was a foot in the door to more dangerous theocratic intrusions on America's secular democracy. That moment might be now: Religiously based state legislation around the country, including in Missouri, is prying that door wide open, using the court's ruling as justification. The faithful should be the first to object to this dangerous mixing of church and state.

The case of former Washington state high school assistant football coach Joseph Kennedy is one of those debates that can easily be made to sound like critics are overblowing it. So the coach knelt in prayer mid-field at the end of games. So he invited the players to join him. So most of them did—high school football coaches being something akin to deities themselves in the eyes of players eager for field time. What's the harm?

The harm, according to at least one atheist student player who complained, is the implicit pressure to participate in a specific denominational prayer on public school property, during a school event, led by a school employee. The First Amendment is explicit in prohibiting government (which would include a unit of government like a public school district) from promoting religion. The Supreme Court in the past has upheld that principle. But the current conservative majority voted 6-3 on the coach's side, declaring it "hostile to religion" for the district to prohibit his on-field proselytizing.

As The Washington Post reports, that ruling is now being cited by state lawmakers in pushing some of the roughly 1,600 pieces of legislation around the country this year attempting to further erode the wall of separation between church and state. The epicenter, not surprisingly, is Texas, where lawmakers have been pursuing measures including a requirement that schools post the Ten Commandments in every public school classroom. Proponents of that and other bills forcing religious dogma upon believers and non-believers alike no longer even bother to deny that's what they're doing. "There is absolutely no separation of God and government," one Texas lawmaker declared, in defiance of the plain language of the Constitution. "It's not real."

Not to be outdone, Missouri lawmakers have sent Gov. Mike Parson a bill to allow public school districts to teach elective courses on the Bible. Nothing in current law prohibits public schools from teaching about the Bible, from a historic and literary standpoint, so why is such legislation necessary right now? Given the wider conservative movement toward outright theocracy, it's a question Missouri's leaders should answer.

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## Eradicate breast cancer? The hunt for a vaccine looks promising

Imagine a future where far fewer women are diagnosed with breast cancer, and women with a family history of breast cancer don't have to make the difficult, even devastating choice to get a preventive mastectomy. Instead, women would get a series of shots that teach their immune systems how to quash breast cancer before it becomes a problem.

A decade or two ago, that future would have sounded fantastical. But in the last six months, multiple clinical trials have brought that much closer to reality. These studies are very early—so far only a handful of people have even gotten the shots.

Yet the arrival of not just one but several breast cancer vaccine studies is an encouraging sign of the amazing progress researchers are making in harnessing the immune system to not just battle cancer, but prevent it in the first place. The potential for treating breast cancer—the most common form of cancer among US women—is huge.

"We are literally vaccinating healthy people now," says Susan Domchek, an oncologist at the University of Pennsylvania who is leading a trial of a preventive breast cancer vaccine. "It's not just pie in the sky, we're actually doing it."

She is one of several researchers making serious headway toward that ambitious goal. Decades of work to understand how to train the immune system to spot tumors has culminated in a cluster of clinical studies of breast cancer vaccines that aim to be truly preventive.

Eventually, "there will be vaccines available for every different type of breast cancer," says Nora Disis, director of the University of Washington's Cancer Vaccine Institute. Disis, an expert in breast cancer immunology, believes chances are high that vaccines to treat or prevent recurrence of the disease will arrive within the next five years. And eventually, vaccines could be available to keep women with a genetic risk of developing cancer from ever having to deal with it.

One early sign of the vaccines' promise came last November, when Disis's team published results from a years-long study of a vaccine that teaches the immune system to spot a mutated form of the protein HER2, a common driver of breast cancer. That's one of several breast cancer vaccines that Disis is developing, with the idea that showing they work to keep cancer from coming back is just the first step in moving them into earlier stages of disease—and eventually prevention.

Others are already moving into studies of vaccines that could prevent disease in people with a high risk of developing breast cancer. In general, those trials are vaccinating women about to undergo preventive mastectomies so that they can look for an immune response in tissue removed during surgery. Then, of course, they will need to follow those women for years to understand if that immune re-

By LISA JARVIS

Bloomberg Opinion

Lisa Jarvis is a Bloomberg Opinion columnist covering biotech, health care and the pharmaceutical industry. Previously, she was executive editor of Chemical & Engineering News.



sponse is enough to keep cancer at bay.

In March, Domchek vaccinated the first three healthy women who harbor BRCA mutations that put them at high risk of developing cancer. Before their mastectomy, the volunteers were given a shot that teaches the immune system to see an enzyme called telomerase, which is turned up too high in cancer cells.

And in February, researchers at the Cleveland Clinic similarly began vaccinating women who do not have breast cancer but carry mutations like BRCA or PALB2. The shot they get before surgery teaches their immune system to recognize a protein that normally is only made when women are lactating, but seems to reappear in triple-negative breast cancers—one of the most aggressive forms of the disease. If it works, their vaccine could be safe for women who are past their child-bearing years.

Proving these vaccines can prevent cancers eventually will require large, late-stage studies—the kind academic centers can't typically afford. "It's going to take advocates, patients, and funding to get this type of work done," Domchek says.

As these studies wind through the clinic, any promising data should motivate investment in an area that could bring us close to the vision of a world with a lot less cancer in it.

Patients are doing their part. Lee Wilke, an oncologist at University of Wisconsin's UW Health who is leading a phase 2 study one of Disis' vaccines, says she has a long list of people who'd like to roll up their sleeve for the trial.

Wilke routinely performs mastectomies and is more than ready for the day when vaccines allow women to make different choices about their health. Maybe a vaccine can allow women with a high risk of developing breast cancer to delay surgery until after they've had children. Maybe it'll eventually mean forgoing surgery altogether and living cancer-free. "I keep telling my colleagues in research and pharmacology: Please, put me out of business," she says.

And while I normally wouldn't wish for anyone's unemployment, to me that sounds like a pretty good goal.



## EDITORIAL POLICY

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# How we can win the economic contest with China

The last century is often referred to as “the American Century,” largely because of our country’s economic strength that provided unprecedented prosperity for millions of American families. Today, one of the critical questions we’re facing is who will be the economic and innovation leader of the 21st century: America or China?

In 1978, when China began to open its economy, America produced four times more steel than China. Now, China produces 12 times more steel than America.

In 1978, America produced more cars than China. Now, China is the world’s largest carmaker. In 1978, America was the world’s leading economy. Now, we remain the world’s biggest economy, but the China has the world’s second largest economy and aims to be No. 1.

If the trajectory of China’s growth is not a wake-up call for America, here is one more troubling statistic: China now leads in 37 of 44 technologies that are considered important for the future of our world, according to the think tank Australian Strategic Policy Institute. This includes 5G, nanoscale manufacturing and drone technology.

As these numbers make clear, China is catching up to the U.S. economically, and its leaders are determined to move ahead of us. As Chinese Communist Party General Secretary Xi Jinping has said, China seeks to “lead the world in terms of comprehensive national power and international influence.”

If we want to level the playing field for the American people and maintain our place as the global economic leader for the rest of the 21st century, we need to protect ourselves from unfair trade practices by the Chinese Communist Party. At the same time, we must up our own game and enhance our competitiveness.

As we think about how to put America on track to win this competition, we need to focus on three P’s: people, production and partnerships.

America’s biggest economic strength has always been its people. Whether we were born here or, like my family, came here from distant shores seeking a shot at the American Dream, our hardworking, ambitious and innovative people have given us a competitive advantage. Making sure our people are better prepared to lead and innovate will be critical to our nation’s future, and attracting the best and brightest from around the world will ensure that we stay ahead.

We’ve seen over the past few years the impact that supply chains abroad can have on working families here at home. Hardening our supply chains by producing more goods in the U.S. will ensure that our economic future is not left to the whims of a disruptive competitor.

Finally, we need to pursue strong partnerships. Economic growth and progress are impossible without them. This includes partnerships with other nations as well as those between our public and private sectors. Working together to fuel innovation on next-generation technologies like artificial intelligence and quantum computing will

By **RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY**

Chicago Tribune

*U.S. Rep. Raja Krishnamoorthi, a Democrat from Illinois, is the ranking member of the House Select Committee on Strategic Competition between the United States and the Chinese Communist Party.*



ensure that we set the pace for the future and keep America No. 1.

These matters need to be pressing priorities for our entire country. We cannot wait in developing a comprehensive plan to lead the world in AI and quantum and biological technologies. The moment to act isn’t in 10 years or five years or even next year; we need to act now to ensure that our economy remains the strongest in the world for the next generation of Americans.

Our foreign competitors like China aren’t waiting. And neither can the working families of America who are competing for the innovative industries and good jobs of the future. That’s why we must come together as Republicans, Democrats and independents to ensure that this isn’t the end of the American century—but the beginning of the next one.

# Hypocrisy of pro-lifers being anti-LGBTQIA

The prefix “pro-” means to support a cause. The noun “life” is defined as an organism composed of cells that can grow, learn and respond to stimuli preceding death. It stands to reason that a pro-lifer is a radical proponent that from cell development until death—everyone—is supported. Everyone!

Most right-wing evangelicals and conservative Catholics proudly boast of being pro-life. MAGA Republican die-hards fondly recall a January 2020 March for Life rally where Donald Trump thanked participants for “making America the pro-family, pro-life nation.”

Simply stated, you cannot be pro-life unless you also support the 7.2 percent of babies who grow up to be LGBTQIA and — by the way — are living under the same canopy of heaven and with God’s divine grace.

LGBTQIA is an abbreviation for lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and/or questioning, intersex, asexual/aromantic/agender. One out of every 13 people you meet could be LGBTQIA (Gallup, Feb. 2023). Medical research is replete with evidence that 1.7 percent of human births are intersex (Journal of Sex Research), whereby the genitalia cannot be classified as female (XX chromosomes) or male (XY chromosomes). The Novo Nordisk Foundation reveals intersex children and their parents are not aware of the chromosome gene mutation until the child reaches puberty.

The LGBTQIA population breaks down — per Gallup research—as follows:

1) 20.8 percent of Gen Z (age 20-26), 2) 10.5 percent of Millennials (age 27-42), 3) 4.2 percent of Gen Z (age 43-58), 4) 2.6 percent of Baby Boomers (age 59-77) and 5) 0.8 percent of Traditionalists (78 and older).

Seventy-nine percent of Americans want to protect LGBTQIA rights. Deniers of the LGBTQIA population probably don’t know — or if they do know shame on them — repercussions of their “anti-” stance. According to a 2021 survey by the Trevor Project, over 50 percent of transgender and non-binary kids have considered suicide and 93 percent say they worry about state laws denying transgender people access to gender-affirming medical care.

Research conducted by Child Trends revealed a statistically significant increase in mental health crisis text lines when anti-LGBTQIA legislation bills are introduced. LGBTQIA teens are five times more likely to make an attempt on their life than their straight peers. Negative actions and attitudes against LGBTQIA teenagers can have serious, life-altering consequences. This data should be a wakeup call for pro-lifers, especially if they value life and disdain suicide and mental health issues.

In October of 2018, Mr. Trump sought to reclassify people into an “unchangeable” category of male or female, which completely denies the existence of transgender and intersex people; a clear violation of human rights. I presume pro-lifers value human rights.

Organizations behind the anti-LGBTQIA legislation that’s been introduced in over 42 states include the conservative le-

By **STEVE CORBIN**

The Fulcrum

*Steve Corbin is professor emeritus of Marketing at the University of Northern Iowa.*



gal powerhouse Alliance Defending Freedom, the conservative think tank Heritage Foundation and the Christian nationalist (who despise all other religions and are anti-Semitic) lobby group Family Policy Alliance.

When 79 percent of Americans who support LGBTQIA rights witness evangelical parishioners and houses of worship tout anti-LGBTQIA beliefs, might this be one reason behind the decline of religious affiliation and church attendance?

Mayors, city council and school board members plus county, state and federal elected officials who took an oath of office to represent all citizens and are anti-LGBTQIA have betrayed the public’s trust and society’s soul. We the People — as per the Constitution — should do our utmost to rid prejudice-laden politicians from serving unless they can represent 100 percent of their respective citizenry.

Pro-life citizens who are anti-LGBTQIA should seriously reflect on what Nelson Mandela — who devoted his life to the service of humanity — once said, “there can be no keener revelation of a society’s soul than the way in which it treats its children.”

# Democrats, don’t repeat this debt-ceiling debacle

We can finally exhale. The House of Representatives passed an agreement to suspend the debt ceiling until 2025, and the Senate is expected to approve the measure in the coming days. Congress—Republicans in Congress—aren’t going to blow up the economy. This time.

Because make no mistake, this vote was not a sure thing. Had Speaker Kevin McCarthy managed things less adeptly; had President Joe Biden been more anxious about his standing within his party; had the negotiators for McCarthy and the White House been less skilled; had former President Donald Trump stumped hard against the deal: There was a real chance of something going badly wrong.

A default on the nation’s debt would have been calamitous. And for what? The debt limit has no positive or useful function. No other nation has a comparable rule requiring separate legislative permission to pay for already-approved spending measures. Budget process experts and economists consider it utterly useless. As journalist Kai Ryssdal said Wednesday: “The debt limit is just so so so freakin’ stupid and we’ve got so many other things we need to grapple with. What a waste of time.”

The good news is that after this near-debacle, Democrats are going to be even more convinced that the debt limit has to go. As with many policy issues, it’s less a question of the party’s preference of what should be done than it is about how high it is on the agenda. And this particular policy is tricky, because while it will require unified Democratic government to eliminate it, the limit only becomes a problem when we have divided government. So Democrats would need to decide to get rid of the debt ceiling whenever they next control both houses of Congress and the White House, in anticipation of when they don’t.

Still, I expect that Democrats will be far more eager to eliminate the debt limit the next time they have the opportunity.

As for Republicans? That’s the bad news. Granted, it isn’t clear that they got anything in the debt limit deal that they wouldn’t have won during negotiations over government spending this fall. But McCarthy is going to push an interpretation of events that this was a big win for his party. And so far Republican critics are complaining that he didn’t bargain hard enough. That might lead Republicans to believe that the debt ceiling is a good lever with which to achieve policy goals.

What’s more, the one group that might have persuaded Re-

By **JONATHAN BERNSTEIN**

Bloomberg Opinion

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publicans to eliminate the debt limit, large business interests, are probably more convinced than ever that they don’t need to worry about it, believing a default will always be averted.

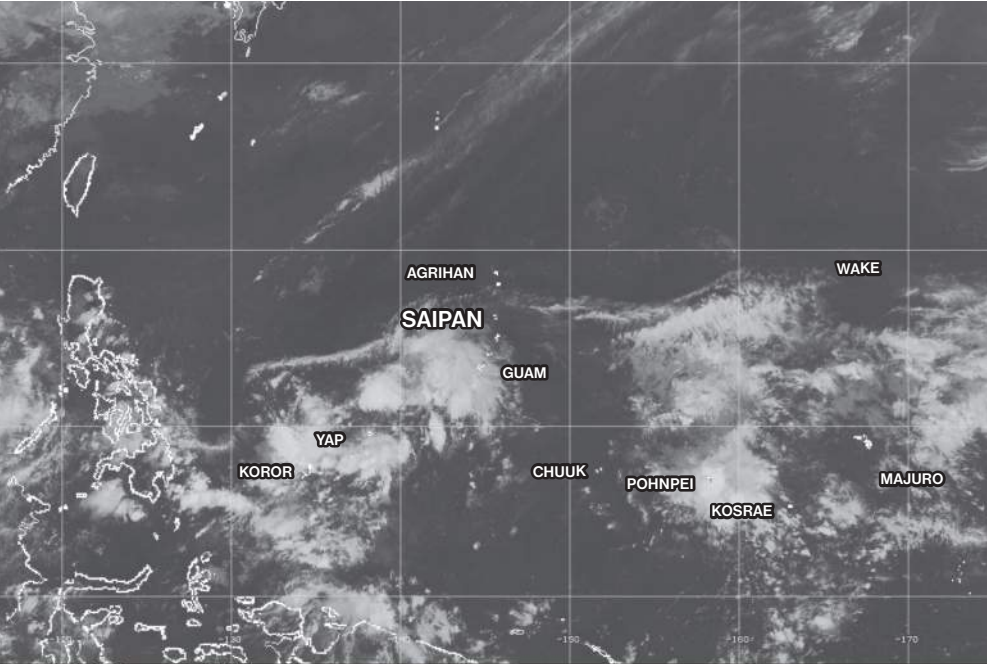
That means we are almost certain to face more debt limit showdowns, at least until the next time Democrats have House and Senate majorities and a Democrat in the White House. But probably no longer than that.

And until then, we’ll have to hope that Republican brinkmanship never progresses to default. Unfortunately, that isn’t very reassuring.



# The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN									
TODAY		TUESDAY		WEDNESDAY		THURSDAY		FRIDAY	
									
Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy		Scattered showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy		A 40 percent chance of showers. Partly sunny		Partly sunny		Partly sunny	
85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°	85°	79°
YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE									



**PICTURE TIME: 8:08 AM, SUNDAY, JUNE 4, 2023**

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Easterly winds prevail over the islands this morning with only isolated showers being were observed. Expect wet weather to return this afternoon.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: [www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/](http://www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/)

MICRONESIA			▲▼°F
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	
Palau	Thunderstorms	83° / 77°	
Yap	Mostly Cloudy	84° / 78°	
Chuuk	Thunderstorms	88° / 79°	
Pohnpei	Showers	83° / 77°	
Kosrae	Cloudy	82° / 79°	
Majuro	Thunderstorms	85° / 79°	

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Tuesday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Wednesday	5:45 AM	6:45 PM
Thursday	5:45 AM	6:46 PM
Friday	5:46 AM	6:46 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	6:21 AM	8:03 PM
Tuesday	-	7:25 AM	9:07 PM
Wednesday	-	8:31 AM	10:06 PM
Thursday	-	9:37 AM	10:59 PM
Friday	-	10:40 AM	11:46 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE			▲▼°F
Auckland	Showers	59° / 51°	
Beijing	Mostly Sunny	96° / 67°	
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	88° / 81°	
Honolulu	Partly Cloudy	84° / 72°	
London	Partly Cloudy	68° / 50°	
Los Angeles	Sunny	87° / 61°	
Manila	Thunderstorms	90° / 80°	
Melbourne	Mostly Cloudy	62° / 49°	
Miami	Thunderstorms	86° / 78°	
New York	Partly Cloudy	71° / 55°	
Osaka	Mostly Cloudy	81° / 66°	
Paris	Showers	75° / 60°	
Busan	Cloudy	77° / 64°	
Rome	Rain	76° / 61°	
Salem	Partly Cloudy	85° / 62°	
San Francisco	Mostly Sunny	64° / 53°	
Seoul	Mostly Sunny	78° / 60°	
Tokyo	Partly Cloudy	83° / 65°	
Washington, DC	Cloudy	76° / 55°	

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY			FEET
5:20 AM	High Tide	2.03	
12:30 PM	Low Tide	0.07	
7:27 PM	High Tide	1.93	
-	-	-	

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2023							
DEPARTURES				ARRIVALS			
SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)				GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN			
UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily	UA174	8:00AM	8:50AM	Daily
UA156	6:55PM	7:40PM	1, 4 effective June 5	UA112	5:00PM	5:50PM	1, 4 effective June 5
SAIPAN- NARITA (NRT)				NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN			
UA824	7:25AM	9:55AM	1, 3, 5	UA825	9:25PM	1:50AM+1	2, 4, 7
GUAM-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-GUAM			
PR 111	5:55AM	7:55AM	Daily	UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA193	6:55PM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Palau	UA189	10:25PM	6:10AM+1	2, 5 via Palau
UA183	7:15PM	9:10PM	Daily	PR110	10:30PM	4:25AM+1	Daily
				UA192	11:50PM	5:35AM+1	2, 5
SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)				MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN			
OZ626/703	4:20AM	10:35PM	1, 4, 5, 7 via ICN	UA184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1, 3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam	UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Palau, Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	2, 5 via Guam, Palau	UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	2, 5 via Guam
SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)				INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN			
TW308	3:15AM	7:00AM	Daily	7C3406	9:30AM	3:10PM	Daily
OZ626	4:20AM	7:55AM	1, 4, 5, 7	TW307	8:30PM	2:15AM+1	Daily
7C3403	4:45AM	8:35AM	Daily	OZ625	9:25PM	2:55AM+1	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	4:10PM	7:45PM	Daily	7C3405	10:10PM	3:40AM+1	Daily

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.							
FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022							
SAIPAN TO ROTA				ROTA TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	8:30	9:00	Daily	3101	9:30	10:00	Daily
1302	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	3102	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun
1302	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/ Sat/Sun	3102	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1303	15:30	16:00	Daily	3103	16:30	17:00	Daily
ROTA TO GUAM				GUAM TO ROTA			
LIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri	4301	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
SAIPAN TO TINIAN				TINIAN TO SAIPAN			
FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY	FLIGHT #	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	8:00	8:15	Daily	2102	8:30	8:45	Daily
1203	9:00	9:15	Daily	2103	9:30	9:45	Daily
1204	10:00	10:15	Daily	2104	10:30	10:45	Daily
1208	14:00	14:15	Daily	2108	14:30	14:45	Daily
1209	15:00	15:15	Daily	2109	15:30	15:45	Daily
1210	16:00	16:15	Daily	2110	16:30	16:45	Daily
1211	17:00	17:15	Daily	2111	17:30	17:45	Daily

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# CNMI gov't hosts relief drive for Typhoon Mawar victims

By **KIMBERLY B. ESMORES**  
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REPORTER

The Department of Corrections, in collaboration with the offices of the Governor and Lt. Governor, Department of Public Safety, Department of Fire and Emergency Medical Services, CNMI Legislature, and the Saipan Mayor's Office hosted a relief drive over the weekend for victims of Typhoon Mawar.

Starting June 2, until Wednesday, June 7, CNMI government agencies will be accepting donations that will assist and help support Typhoon Mawar victims in Guam.

The initial salvo of this relief drive took place at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The agencies that came together to make this relief drive happen have secured a 40-foot container that will be shipped to Guam this week.

The relief drive aims to fill the entire container with water, non-perishable food items like canned foods, rice, baby formula, dry noodles, baby food, bottled water, hygiene supplies, over-the-counter medications, non-perishable pet food items, linens, blankets, sleeping cots, mosquito, butane cans, and first-aid kits.

"We're doing a Typhoon Mawar Relief Drive for the victims of Guam. It's a joint collaboration [between different government entities]. We're asking the community to come out and make donations... to assist victims of Mawar on Guam," said DOC Commissioner Anthony Torres.

The local government entities involved in this effort have teamed up to split the cost of sending the container to Guam.

DFEMS acting commissioner Juan Pua said DFEMS



is happy to collaborate in this effort and asks that the community help in any way they can.

"We're to collaborate in this effort with our government partners and the community to help by providing disaster relief for Guam. We're asking the community for help," he said.

In addition, PUA added that DFEMS will soon launch a Boot Drive for Guam's Fire Department and a Food Drive for the Rota Fire Department.

DPS Commissioner Clement Bermudes reiterated Pua's statement, adding that Guam needs all the help it can get and hopes that the community can come out and help in this effort.

"I know this will strain our wallets but, please, give whatever you can. This is our

brothers and sisters [in] Guam. If I recall correctly, Guam has done something similar for us post-Yutu, Mangkhut, and

Soudelor. This help shows that the Marianas truly shares one heartbeat and works together as one," he said.

Saipan Mayor Ramon Blas Camacho stated that its only right that the CNMI extends a helping hand to Guam as they

Starting June 2, until Wednesday, June 7, CNMI government agencies will be accepting donations that will assist and help support Typhoon Mawar victims in Guam. Photo shows government officials standing in front of the 40-foot container that will be shipped to Guam this week.

KIMBERLY BAUTISTA

have extended their own support for the CNMI during major storms the CNMI has faced in the past few years.

"We need to help each other. As mayor of this municipality, I humbly ask the business community, nonprofit groups, and the community to come forward and join hands in providing aid for our brothers and sisters in Guam," he said.

Rep. Ed Propst (D-Saipan) said this idea comes from the heart. "On behalf of my colleagues in the House of Representatives, we are fully committed to assisting the good people of Guam. We are one Marianas and we should always look out for one another, just as Guam has done for us numerous times disaster after disaster," he said.

"Let's pitch in, let's fill up this container, let's do this together," he added.

## CUC power line crew to help Guam restoration efforts



Gov. Arnold I. Palacios, Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang, Commonwealth Utilities Corp. board chair Janice A. Tenorio, and CUC acting executive director Betty Terlaje pose with the CUC line crew that will be sent to Guam to help with the restoration efforts of the power distribution system following Typhoon Mawar.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

The Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is providing personnel support to the Guam Power Authority with the restoration efforts of the power distribution system following Typhoon Mawar.

This collaborative effort is the result of a mutual agreement between CUC and GPA for emergency assistance after a major disaster. CUC has been working closely with GPA even before the onset of Typhoon Mawar. Typhoon Mawar severely damaged the GPA power system affecting the power supply to over 52,000 customers in Guam.

CUC focused its efforts on the island of Rota first to restore power and water

services to its customers. "With Rota's utilities restored and operations back to normal, it is now time to lend a helping hand to our brothers and sisters [in] Guam, just as GPA extended their assistance to CUC after Typhoon Soudelor in 2015 and Super Typhoon Yutu in 2018, which destroyed the distribution system of Saipan and Tinian" said CUC acting executive director Betty Terlaje. "We recognize the importance of standing together with our sister utility companies in the Marianas and Pacific region during times of adversity."

CUC board chair Janice A. Tenorio expressed her gratitude to the line crew

and wishes them well on their endeavor. Tenorio also thanked Gov. Arnold I. Palacios and Lt. Gov. David M. Apatang for their support.

Terlaje especially thanks GPA general manager John Benavente and the rest of the GPA family for their collaboration, hospitality, and for welcoming CUC's line crew during this effort.

"Their support enables us to reciprocate the assistance we have received in the past, strengthening the bond between our utilities and reinforcing the spirit of unity in the face of natural disasters," said a CUC news release that announced this collaboration. (PR)

## \$1.6M grant supports NMI financial management

The U.S. Department of the Interior's Office of Insular Affairs has announced \$1,608,516 in fiscal year 2023 Technical Assistance Program grant funding that will help address financial management concerns and support the CNMI.

"Gov. [Arnold I.] Palacios has indicated the urgent need for the CNMI government to address financial management issues in the territory," said assistant secretary for Insular and International Affairs Carmen G. Cantor. "I am pleased that we can provide some relevant and urgently needed support in the areas of financial records management, financial management system

implementation, and public auditor training."

Technical Assistance Program grant awards totaling \$1,608,516 will be awarded to the territorial government as follows:

- \$885,000 for Single Audit Technical Assistance, Financial Management Implementation System implementation, and general financial records management;

- \$526,799 for implementation and training under the Revenue Management Information System; and

- \$196,717 to the Office of the Public Auditor.

More information about the Office of Insular Affairs can be found at [www.doi.gov/oia](http://www.doi.gov/oia). (PR)



# Business

## FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY MAWAR

### BOH provides financial assistance programs

GUAM—Bank of Hawaii has initiated financial assistance programs to help Guam residents affected by Super Typhoon Mawar.

“While the people of Guam are resilient, we know the road to recovery after Typhoon Mawar will be long. Our hope is that impacted residents can find some relief through these programs that allow for immediate financial assistance with flexibility,” said Peter Ho, chairman, CEO and president of Bank of Hawaii.

The programs provide access to cash via an emergency loan, relief on an existing Bank of Hawaii loan through extensions or forbearances, and fee waivers for ATM transactions.

#### Emergency Relief Loan Program:

- Fixed interest rate
- Fast approval and quick funding, with loans up to \$7,500
- Predictable monthly payments over a 36-month term
- Loan fee waived
- Loan amounts may be used to provide temporary cash relief for emergency supplies and living essentials.

#### Forbearance Program:

- Provides loan forbearance for up to 6 months for residential mortgages, home equity loans and home equity lines.
- Forbearance amount can include a partial loan payment up to full payment based on the amount the borrower can afford to pay.
- The total amount of payments deferred will be due on the first due date following the end of the forbearance term, or according to terms of the repayment plan.



BOH

Programs to provide access to cash via an emergency loan, relief on an existing loan through extensions or forbearances, and fee waivers for ATM transactions have been initiated by Bank of Hawaii to help Guam residents affected by Super Typhoon Mawar.

- Loans must be less than 30 days past due prior to Typhoon Mawar.

#### Extension Program:

- Provides a loan extension for up to 3 months for products, including: direct installment (personal loans) and indirect loans (auto).
- Principal and interest payments will be deferred for the term of the extension.
- Full payments are due on the first due date following the end of the term of the extension.
- Loans must be less than 30 days past due prior to Typhoon Mawar.

#### ATM Fees Waived:

- Rota
- Tinian

Their Familia Contact Center continues to observe temporary hours from 6am to 9pm daily.

As power and network connections continue to be restored throughout the island, Bank of Guam is diligently working to bring more of their ATMs back online. Their dedicated team is working around the clock to ensure that every ATM in their fleet is fully operational once again, providing customers with convenient access to their funds.

“We are incredibly grate-

- To assist in recovery efforts while other financial institutions work to restore their ATMs, Bank of Hawaii has temporarily suspended its surcharge fees for all Guam ATM users from Thursday, June 1 through Sunday, June 4 ChST.

For additional information on the financial relief programs, call the Bank of Hawaii Guam Call Center toll free at 1-877-553-2424. Details are also available at <http://www.boh.com/mawar> or by visiting a Bank of Hawaii branch on Guam. For payment relief on an existing Bank of Hawaii loan or line, call (671) 479-3700 or toll free 1-877-280-6477. (PR)

ful to our amazing customers for their patience and our dedicated employees for their unwavering commitment. We’ve made significant progress in restoring our branches and services for you. As The People’s Bank, we stand alongside our communities to Rebuild Stronger Every Day,” said Joaquin P. L.G. Cook, president and chief executive officer.

Stay updated with the latest information on Bank of Guam operations by following @bankofguam on Facebook and Instagram. For more details and access to helpful resources, visit [bankofguam.com](http://bankofguam.com). (PR)

### Bank of Guam reopens Upper Tumon branch

HAGATNA, Guam—Bank of Guam announced the re-opening of their Upper Tumon Branch, effective today, June 5. The branch will resume normal operating hours, welcoming customers from 9am to 4pm.

The following Branches across Guam and CNMI will be open from 9am to 4pm with limited transactions.

#### Guam branches

- Andersen
- Hagåtña
- Upper Tumon
- Yigo

#### CNMI branches

- Garapan

# Nation

## Biden signs debt ceiling bill

WASHINGTON (AP)—

With just two days to spare, President Joe Biden signed legislation on Saturday that lifts the nation’s debt ceiling, averting an unprecedented default on the federal government’s debt.

It was a decidedly low-key denouement to a monthslong drama that unnerved financial markets at home and abroad and caused anxious retirees and social service organizations to make contingency plans in case the country was unable to pay all its bills.

Instead of holding a public ceremony with lawmakers from both parties—showcasing the bipartisanship that Biden had cited in an Oval Office address on Friday evening—the president signed the legislation in private in a reflection of the tight deadline facing the nation’s leaders.

The Treasury Department had warned that the country would start running short of cash on Monday, which would have sent shockwaves through the U.S. and global economies.

The White House released a picture of the president signing the legislation at the Resolute Desk. In a brief statement, Biden thanked Democratic and Republican

### » Pulls US back from brink of unprecedented default

congressional leaders for their partnership, a cordial message that contrasted with the rancor that initially characterized the debt debate.

“No matter how tough our politics gets, we need to see each not as adversaries, but as fellow Americans,” Biden said in a video message released after the signing. He said it was important to “stop shouting, lower the temperature, and work together to pursue progress, secure prosperity and keep the promise of America for everybody.”

The standoff began when Republicans refused to raise the country’s borrowing limit unless Democrats agreed to cut spending. Eventually, the White House began weeks of intense negotiations with House Speaker Kevin McCarthy, R-Calif., to reach a deal.

The final agreement, passed by the House on Wednesday and the Senate on Thursday, suspends the debt limit until 2025—after the next presidential election—and restricts government spending. It gives lawmakers budget targets for the next two years in hopes of

assuring fiscal stability as the political season heats up.

Raising the nation’s debt limit, now at \$31.4 trillion, will ensure that the government can borrow to pay debts already incurred.

After Congress passed the legislation, Biden used the occasion to deliver his first speech from the Oval Office as president on Friday.

“No one got everything they wanted but the American people got what they needed,” he said, highlighting the “compromise and consensus” in the deal. “We averted an economic crisis and an economic collapse.”

Biden touted the achievements of his first term as he runs for reelection, including support for high-tech manufacturing, infrastructure investments and financial incentives for fighting climate change. He also highlighted ways he blunted Republican efforts to roll back his agenda and achieve deeper cuts.

“We’re cutting spending and bringing deficits down at the same time,” Biden said. “We’re protecting important priorities from Social Security to Medicare to Medicaid to veterans to our transformational investments in infrastructure and clean energy.”

## Disney lawsuit judge removes himself from case

ORLANDO, Fla. (AP)—

A federal judge overseeing the First Amendment lawsuit that Walt Disney Parks filed against Gov. Ron DeSantis and others is disqualifying himself, but not because of bias claims made by the Florida governor.

Chief U.S. District Judge Mark Walker said in a court filing Thursday that it was because a relative owns 30 shares of Disney stock. Walker described the person as “a third-degree relative,” which typically means a cousin, a great-aunt or great-uncle, or a great-niece or great-nephew.

The governor’s lawyers had filed a motion to disqualify Walker last month because he had referenced the ongoing dispute between the DeSantis administration and Disney during hearings in two unrelated lawsuits before him dealing with free speech issues and fear of retaliation for violating new laws championed by the governor and Republican lawmakers.

Disney had opposed the governor’s motion, saying the judge had shown no bias.

The judge on Thursday called DeSantis’ arguments “without merit.” DeSantis declared his candidacy for the 2024 GOP presidential nomination last week.

Under the code of conduct for federal judges, Walker wasn’t required to look into the financial interests of third-degree relatives but did so and decided that “disqualification from this proceeding is required under the circumstances,” he said.

Disney’s share price was in the \$90 range on Friday, so the value of the relative’s holdings would be around \$2,700. In his decision, the judge said that the value of the holdings didn’t matter but rather any impact he could have on the investment because of a ruling.

“Even though I believe it is highly unlikely that these proceedings will have a substantial effect on The Walt Disney Company, I choose to err on the side of caution — which, here, is also the side of judicial integrity — and disqualify myself,” said

Walker, who was nominated to the federal bench in 2012 by President Barack Obama.

The feud between DeSantis and Disney started last year after the company, in the face of significant pressure, publicly opposed legislation concerning lessons on sexual orientation and gender identity in early grades that critics called “Don’t Say Gay.”

As punishment, DeSantis took over Disney World’s governing district through legislation passed by lawmakers and appointed a new board of supervisors. Before the new board came in, the company signed agreements with the old board made up of Disney supporters that stripped the new supervisors of design and construction authority.

In response, the Republican-controlled Florida Legislature passed legislation allowing the DeSantis-appointed board to repeal those agreements and made the theme park resort’s monorail system subject to state inspection, when it previously had been done in-house.



# Asia

## Rescue work for train crash that killed 300 in India ends

**BALASORE, India (AP)**—With rescue work finished, authorities began clearing the mangled wreckage of two passenger trains that derailed in eastern India, killing more than 300 people and injuring hundreds in one of the country's deadliest rail accidents in decades, officials said Sunday.

Investigators are looking into possible causes behind Friday night's crash in Balasore district of eastern Odisha state, including whether human error or signal failure played a role.

Fifteen bodies were recovered on Saturday evening and efforts continued overnight as heavy cranes were used to remove an engine that had settled on top of a rail car. No bodies were found in the engine and the work was completed on Sunday morning, said Sudhanshu Sarangi, director-general of fire and emergency services in Odisha.

The accident occurred at a time when Prime Minister Narendra Modi is focusing on the modernization of the British colonial-era railroad network in India, which has become the world's most populous country with 1.42 billion people. Despite government efforts to improve rail safety, several hundred



Rescuers work at the site of passenger trains accident, in Balasore district, in the eastern Indian state of Orissa, Saturday, June 3, 2023.

AP

accidents occur every year on India's railways, the largest train network under one management in the world.

Preliminary investigations revealed that a signal was given to the Coromandel Express to enter the main track line but the signal was later taken off. The train entered another line, known as the loop line, and crashed into a goods train parked there, the Press Trust of India news agency reported.

When asked about the cause of the accident and preliminary findings, India's Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw said, "Let the inquiry report come out. It won't be appropriate to comment."

Chaotic scenes erupted on Friday night as rescuers climbed atop the wrecked trains to break open doors and windows using cutting torches to try to save people who were trapped inside the rail cars.

Modi visited the crash site on Saturday to examine the relief effort and talk to rescue officials. He also visited a hospital where he asked doctors about the treatments being given to the injured, and spoke to some of them.

Modi told reporters he felt the pain of those who suffered in the accident. He said the government would do its utmost to help them and strictly punish anyone found responsible.

## China defends buzzing US warship in Taiwan Strait

**SINGAPORE (AP)**—China's defense minister defended sailing a warship across the path of an American destroyer and Canadian frigate transiting the Taiwan Strait, telling a gathering of some of the world's top defense officials in Singapore on Sunday that such so-called "freedom of navigation" patrols are a provocation to China.

In his first international public address since becoming defense minister in March, Gen. Li Shangfu told the Shangri-La Dialogue that China doesn't have any problems with "innocent passage" but that "we must prevent attempts that try to use those freedom of navigation (patrols), that innocent passage, to exercise hegemony of navigation."

U.S. Defense Secretary Lloyd Austin told the same forum Saturday that Washington would not "flinch in the face of bullying or coercion" from China and would continue regularly sailing through and flying over the Taiwan Strait and the South China Sea to emphasize they are in-

ternational waters, countering Beijing's sweeping territorial claims.

That same day, as a U.S. guided-missile destroyer and a Canadian frigate were intercepted by a Chinese warship as they transited the strait between the self-governed island of Taiwan, which China claims as its own territory, and mainland China. The Chinese vessel overtook the American ship and then veered across its bow at a distance of 150 yards (about 140 meters) in an "unsafe manner," according to the U.S. Indo-Pacific Command.

Additionally, the U.S. has said a Chinese J-16 fighter jet late last month "performed an unnecessarily aggressive maneuver" while intercepting a U.S. Air Force reconnaissance aircraft over the South China Sea, flying directly in front of the plane's nose.

Those and previous incidents have raised concerns of a possible accident occurring that could lead to an escalation between the two nations at a time when tensions are already high.

Li suggested the U.S. and its allies had created the danger, and should instead should focus on taking "good care of your own territorial airspace and waters."

"The best way is for the countries, especially the naval vessels and fighter jets of countries, not to do closing actions around other countries' territories," he said through an interpreter. "What's the point of going there? In China we always say, 'Mind your own business.'"

In a wide-ranging speech, Li reiterated many of Beijing's well-known positions, including its claim on Taiwan, calling it "the core of our core interests."

He accused the U.S. and others of "meddling in China's internal affairs" by providing Taiwan with defense support and training, and conducting high-level diplomatic visits.

"China stays committed to the path of peaceful development, but we will never hesitate to defend our legitimate rights and interests, let alone sacrifice the nation's core interests," he said.

# World

## Blinken warns Ukraine cease-fire would result in 'Potemkin peace'

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP)**—U.S. Secretary of State Antony Blinken said Friday that the United States and its allies should not support a cease-fire or peace talks to end the war in Ukraine until Kyiv gains strength and can negotiate on its own terms.

As an anticipated Ukrainian counteroffensive appeared to be taking shape, Blinken said heeding calls from Russia and others, including China, for negotiations now would result in a false "Potemkin peace" that wouldn't secure Ukraine's sovereignty or enhance European security.

"We believe the prerequisite for meaningful diplomacy and real peace is a stronger Ukraine, capable of deterring and defending against any future aggression," Blinken said in a speech in Finland, which recently became NATO's newest member and shares a long border with Russia.

His use of the term "Potemkin" referred to the brightly painted village fronts that 18th century Russian government minister Grigory

Potemkin reportedly used to have built to create an illusion of prosperity for Russia's empress.

Blinken repeated the U.S. view that "a cease-fire that simply freezes current lines in place" and allows Russian President Vladimir Putin "to consolidate control over the territory he has seized, and rest, rearm, and re-attack—that is not a just and lasting peace."

Allowing Moscow to keep the one-fifth of Ukrainian territory it's occupied would send the wrong message to Russia and to "other would-be aggressors around the world," according to Blinken, implying that a cease-fire shouldn't be arranged until either Ukraine pushes Russia back or Russia withdraws its troops.

Blinken's position is similar to that of Ukrainian officials, including his statement that Russia must pay for a share of Ukraine's reconstruction and be held accountable for the full-scale invasion of its neighbor in February 2022.

After months of battlefield

stalemate across a 685-mile (1100-km) front line, Ukrainian officials have given confusing signals about whether a counteroffensive, relying heavily on recently deployed advanced Western weapons and training, is coming or already underway.

Some have suggested the campaign will not be a barrage of simultaneous attacks across the entire front but rather a series of more targeted, limited strikes, first to weaken Russia's supply lines and infrastructure, then expanded to broader targets with greater intensity.

Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy weighed in again on Friday.

"This is not a movie," he told reporters in Kyiv. "It is hard to say how you'll see the counteroffensive. The main point here is for Russia to see it. And not just see but feel it. Especially, we speak about the troops that have occupied our territories. De-occupation of our territories—this is the result of our counteroffensive. When you see this, you'll understand that it has started."

## UAE defends Big Oil's role at UN climate summit it will host

**BERLIN (AP)**—A senior United Arab Emirates official says the Gulf nation wants the U.N. climate summit it's hosting later this year to deliver "game-changing results" for international efforts to curb global warming, but doing so will require having the fossil fuel industry at the table.

Environmental campaigners have slammed the presence of oil and gas lobbyists at previous rounds of talks, warning that their interests are opposed to the goal of cutting greenhouse gas emissions—caused to a large degree by the burning of fossil fuels. Last month scores of U.S. and European lawmakers called for the summit's designated chair, Sultan al-Jaber, to be replaced over his links to the state-owned Abu Dhabi National Oil Company.

The issue complicates already-delicate negotiations ahead of the Nov. 30 - Dec. 12 meeting in Dubai, known as COP28. Preliminary talks starting next week in Bonn, Germany, will show whether the incoming UAE presidency can overcome skepticism among parties and civil society groups about its ability to shepherd almost 200 nations

toward a landmark deal.

"Our leadership have been very clear to me and our team and our president that they don't want just another COP that's incremental," said Majid al-Suwaidi, who as director-general of the summit plays a key role in the diplomatic negotiations. "They want a COP that is going to deliver real, big, game-changing results because they see, just like all of us, that we're not on track to achieve the goals of Paris."

Governments agreed eight years ago in the French capital to limit global warming to 2 degrees Celsius (3.6 Fahrenheit)—ideally no more than 1.5C (2.7F). With average global temperatures already about 1.2C (2.2F) above pre-industrial levels, experts say the window to meet the more ambitious target is closing fast and even the less stringent goal would be missed if emissions aren't slashed sharply soon.

"We need to have everybody at the table discussing with us about how to deliver that," al-Suwaidi told The Associated Press in an interview Friday.

"We need to have oil and

gas, we need to have industry, we need to have aviation, we need to have shipping, we need to have all the hard to abate sectors," he said, adding: "We need all those who can to deliver what they can, regardless of who they are."

Al-Suwaidi pushed back against the idea that the fossil fuel industry would undermine meaningful talks on emissions cuts the way they have done in the past through disinformation campaigns and keeping quiet their own knowledge about climate change.

"There's no doubt in my mind that the position of the sector has completely changed and that they are engaging with us in an active conversation," he said.

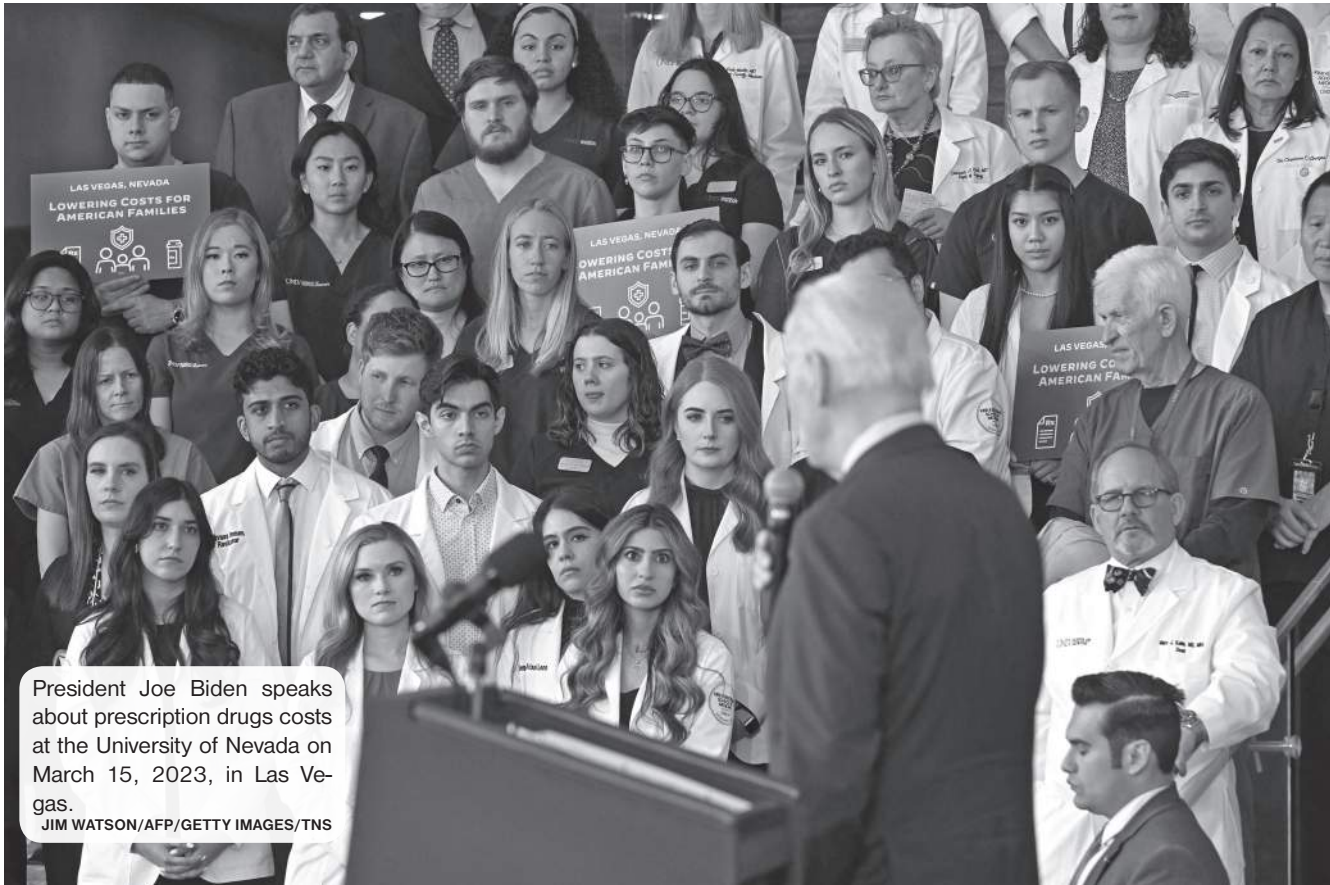
Asked whether the talks might consider a phaseout of fossil fuels, proposed last year by nations most vulnerable to climate change, al-Suwaidi said the presidency wouldn't preclude such conversations.

"We welcome any kind of discussion," the UAE's former ambassador to Spain said. "But the parties are the ones who will decide what that discussion is and where we land."



# Health & Wellness

## Millions skipping doses, not filling prescriptions to save money



President Joe Biden speaks about prescription drugs costs at the University of Nevada on March 15, 2023, in Las Vegas.  
JIM WATSON/AFP/GETTY IMAGES/TNS

By HUNTER BOYCE  
THE ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION

A new report from the Atlanta-based Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

has shed some new light on the health habits of Americans. According to the report, 8.2% of adults between the ages of 18 and 64 taking prescription medications re-

ported not taking their drugs as prescribed in order to cut costs—adding up to 9.2 million affected Americans.

In 2021, out of pocket expenses on retail drugs rose

to \$63 billion—a major factor in many U.S. residents' decision to stop taking their medications. Roughly 60% of U.S. adults 18 years old or older reported taking at least

one prescription medication that year. A total 36% of people reported taking three or more medications.

"High costs may limit individuals' access to medications and lead to people not taking medication as prescribed; this may result in more serious illness and require additional treatment," the CDC reported.

Women were found to be more likely to not follow their prescriptions than men. Those with disabilities were found to be three times more likely to not take their medications as prescribed than those without disabilities. Adults in fair or poor health were also almost three times more likely to do so than those in excellent, very good, or good health. Uninsured adults, however, were the most likely to not take their medications as

prescribed due to costs.

While out of pocket retail drug spending rose by 4.8% in 2021, the CDC study largely laid the cause of the health trend at the feet of a rising number of total available retail prescriptions—not at rising prices.

"Although the average price per prescription remained flat between 2020 and 2021, the number of retail prescriptions grew, with out-of-pocket spending for prescription medications increasing by 4.8%," the CDC reported. "Cost-saving strategies such as skipping doses, taking reduced doses, and delaying filling a prescription may make health conditions worse, result in more serious illness, and require additional expensive treatment, and therefore have implications for health and the costs of care."

## Type 2 diabetes study: Afternoon exercise tied to blood sugar improvements, researchers find

By Rick Sobey  
BOSTON HERALD

Those with type 2 diabetes who are planning out their exercise schedule should consider getting in a workout after lunch, according to a new study from Boston researchers.

Type 2 diabetes patients who were physically active in the afternoon saw greater improvements in blood sugar levels than those who were most active at other times of day, the researchers from the Brigham and Joslin Diabetes Center recently found.

"In this study, we show that adults with type 2 diabetes had the greatest improvement in glucose control when they were most active in the afternoon," said Jingyi Qian, from the Division of Sleep and Circadian Disorders at the Brigham.

"We've known that physical activity is beneficial, but what our study adds is a new understanding that timing of activity may be important too," Qian added.

More than 37 million Americans have diabetes, and 90% to 95% of that population are diagnosed with type 2 diabetes. Doctors recommend that patients with diabetes participate in regular physical activity as a method to manage their blood glucose levels. Elevated blood glucose levels can put people with type 2 diabetes at risk of heart disease, vision impairment, and kidney disease.

This new study from investigators at Brigham and Women's Hospital and Joslin Diabetes Center uses data from the Look AHEAD (Action for Health in Diabetes) study.

The research team looked at whether physical activity at certain times of day was associated with greater improvement in blood glucose control. Their findings suggest that patients with type 2 diabetes who were physically active in the afternoon had the largest improvements after one year in the trial.

During the study, participants wore a waist accelerometer recording device to measure physical activity. When the Brigham and Joslin team reviewed the data from year 1, they determined that those who engaged in moderate-to-vigorous physical activity in the afternoon had the greatest reduction in blood glucose levels.

In future studies, the team may test their findings experimentally to investigate why the time of day for exercise may influence blood glucose control. From this, the team may be able to provide specific physical activity recommendations for patients.

"Timing does seem to matter," said Roeland Middelbeek, assistant investigator at Joslin Diabetes Center. "Going forward, we may have more data and experimental evidence for patients to give more personalized recommendations."

## How can men and boys combat social isolation? Experts provide tips

By MYAH TAYLOR  
THE DALLAS MORNING NEWS

With loneliness and social isolation becoming a crisis in America, particularly among boys and men, more is being done to address the problems as they become more acute.

Experts say the epidemic harms men in significant ways, thanks to not only technological forces, but masculine norms that encourage individualism and stoicism rather than deep friendship with other men.

U.S. Surgeon General Dr. Vivek Murthy, in early May at the start of Mental Health Awareness Month, called the widespread lack of social connection an "epidemic of loneliness and isolation" that poses health risks as deadly as smoking up to 15 cigarettes daily. Murthy outlined in an advisory a plan, the "National Strategy to Advance Social Connection," to help combat the problem.

Men often have fewer friends than women with 15 percent saying they have no close friends. Experts provide recommendations on what boys and men can do to combat social isolation.

### Engage in a group or team activity

Men tend to have side-by-side relationships with each other,



L.D. Bell High School football player Lukas Morris (center) reacts after winning against Lorenzo Martinez (right) during a racing arcade game on Tuesday, May 9, 2023, at WhirlyBall LaserWorld of HEB in Hurst.  
CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Joe Grasso, a licensed clinical psychologist who earned his PhD from UT-Austin and specializes in masculinity and men's issues, told The Dallas Morning News.

Participating in a group activity like sports or gaming can help facilitate connection and team building.

"Men are more likely to build friendships around shared activities, whether that's fantasy football or playing in a rec league or just getting together to watch a game," Grasso said. "Those are all 'socially-approved' ways for men to hang out together and connect."

### Be positive

Niobe Way, a professor of ap-

plied psychology at NYU and author of 2011's *Deep Secrets: Boys' Friendship and the Crisis of Connection*, said group opportunities prove especially helpful if the environment surrounding an activity, like sports, is positive.

"You need a good coach to really turn sports into something that you can build lasting friendships on," Way told The News. "A coach that sort of nurtures that."

### Be intentional

Way has found that boys do desire deep friendship connections with each other, but cultural norms often prevent them from pursuing more emotional intimacy with their pals.

"When they're being honest and they feel safe enough to be honest, they'll say 'Of course I want that,'" Way said. "And they have a hard time finding other men in part because they don't believe that other men want that."

Overcoming that hurdle is most of the work, Way said.

"It really is as simple as reaching out to others and asking them to do something with you," she said.

### Participate in conversation

Grasso said men tend to distance themselves from relationships that are too hard to maintain, which makes friendship difficult.

He added that they often suffer from a lack of vocabulary about what they're feeling.

Way said men could be more active in their social interactions to achieve deeper friendships.

"Ask questions about what they are saying rather than just waiting to share your own story," she said. "We don't ask enough follow-up questions of each other and thus we often don't feel listened to. Men are particularly bad at asking follow-up questions. ... Follow-up questions allow us to understand someone else's experience more and allows us to feel more connected."



# Life & Style

## Ex-Playboy model accuses Bill Cosby of sex assault in 1969

LOS ANGELES (AP)—A former Playboy model who alleges Bill Cosby drugged and sexually assaulted her and another woman at his home in 1969 sued him Thursday under a new California law that suspends the statute of limitations on sex abuse claims.

In her lawsuit, Victoria Valentino, 80, says she was an actress and singer 54 years ago, when she met Cosby, now 85. The comedian and actor later approached her at a Los Angeles café, where he spotted her crying over the recent drowning death of her 6-year-old son.

The Associated Press does not identify people who say they have been sexually assaulted unless they come forward publicly.



Cosby

Cosby offered to pay for a spa treatment for Valentino and a friend, and then sent a chauffeured car to pick the women up for dinner. That evening at a steakhouse, Cosby gave them each a pill, she said in the court filing.

"Here! Take this!" the lawsuit alleges Cosby said to them. "It will make you feel better. It will make us ALL feel better."

Cosby then drove the women to his house, where Valentino passed out on a couch, and later woke up and witnessed him sexually assaulting her unnamed friend, according to the lawsuit. The court documents

allege Cosby then "engaged in forced sexual intercourse" with Valentino while she was incapacitated from the drug.

Valentino's allegations come on the heels of lawsuits last year by six Cosby accusers in New York under a similar provision known as a "lookback" law that allows adults to file sexual abuse cases for allegations that had fallen outside the statute of limitations.

The former "Cosby Show" star, who has been accused of rape, sexual assault and sexual harassment by at least 60 women, has denied all allegations involving sex crimes. He was the first celebrity tried and convicted in the #MeToo era—and spent nearly three years at a state prison near

Philadelphia before a higher court threw out the conviction and released him in 2021.

His spokesperson, Andrew Wyatt, said Thursday that Valentino's lawsuit lacks "any proof or facts" and that so-called lookback laws violate constitutional rights aimed at protecting crime victims and "those that are accused of a crime."

"What graveyard can Mr.

Cosby visit, in order to dig up potential witnesses to testify on his behalf?" Wyatt asked in a statement. "America is continuing to see that this is a formula to make sure that no more Black Men in America accumulate the American Dream that was secured by Mr. Cosby."

The lawsuit in LA County Superior Court was filed nearly two years after Cosby

left prison when the Pennsylvania Supreme Court overturned his 2018 sexual assault conviction. They found he gave incriminating testimony in a deposition about the encounter only after believing he had immunity from prosecution. The trial judge and an intermediate appeals court had found no evidence of such immunity.

## Billy Joel to end his record-breaking concert series at Madison Square Garden in 2024

NEW YORK (AP)—Billy Joel is finally moving out of his monthly perch at Madison Square Garden. The singer-songwriter says he will conclude his residency in July 2024 with his 150th lifetime performance at the venue.

"It's hard to believe we've been able to do this for 10 years," Joel said at a news conference Thursday. "I'm now 74. I'll be 75 next year. It seems like a nice number."

The record-breaking residency began in January 2014 with Joel playing one show every month at the Garden for, as he

said at the time, "as long as the demand continues."

In January 2015, Joel broke his own record of the "most consecutive performances by any artist" with the 13th show of the residency and a new banner was raised to the Garden's rafters.

In July 2015, with his 65th lifetime show, Joel broke another record for the "most lifetime performances by any artist," for which another banner was raised. Both of Joel's banners continue to hang at the Garden.

"There's only one thing that's more New York than Billy Joel—and that's a Billy Joel

concert at MSG," said New York City Mayor Eric Adams. "For more than 50 years, Billy's music has defined our city and brought us together. On behalf of 8.5 million New Yorkers, congratulations, Billy, on a historic run of sold-out shows at MSG, and thank you for a lifetime of bringing joy to us all."

Joel has had 33 Top 40 hits, including three No. 1s—"It's Still Rock and Roll to Me," "We Didn't Start the Fire" and "Tell Her About It"—and four No. 1 albums—"52nd Street," "Glass Houses," "Storm Front" and "River of Dreams."

## 3 women can testify at Cuba Gooding Jr.'s sex assault trial

NEW YORK (AP)—Three women who claim Cuba Gooding Jr. sexually abused them—including one upset she never got her day in court when Gooding resolved criminal charges without trial or jail—can testify at a federal civil trial this week to support a woman's claim that the actor raped her in 2013, a judge ruled Friday.

Judge Paul A. Crotty said the allegations by the women were relevant for a jury deciding if the Oscar-winning "Jerry Maguire" star raped a woman in a Manhattan hotel room after they met at a bar. He also ruled in a separate order that the plaintiff, identified only as Jane Doe in the lawsuit seeking \$6 million in damages, must reveal her name at trial.

He said the claims by the three women who can testify "are sufficiently similar" to the claims at stake in the trial



Gooding Jr.

because "all involve sudden sexual assaults or attempted sexual assaults" connected to Gooding and stemmed from the presence of the women and Gooding in social settings such as festivals, bars, nightclubs and restaurants.

Lawyers for Gooding, a #MeToo defendant in multiple courts, have said Gooding had consensual sex with the woman who accused him of rape after they met in the VIP lounge of a Greenwich Village restaurant and she joined him at a nearby hotel bar, agreeing to proceed to his hotel room so the actor could change his clothing. The lawyers did not respond to an email request for comment Friday.

The three women include

Kelsey Harbert, who said in tears after Gooding pleaded guilty last year that never getting her day in court was "more disappointing than words can say."

Harbert told police Gooding fondled her without her consent at Magic Hour Rooftop Bar & Lounge near Times Square in 2019.

The Associated Press does not typically identify people who say they are victims of sexual assault unless they grant permission, as Harbert has done.

The judge disallowed the testimony of a fourth woman on the grounds that her proposed testimony that Gooding groped her breast without her consent in 2011 was so similar to Harbert's expected testimony that it would be "needlessly cumulative" and would increase the chance of improper bias. The trial is scheduled to start Tuesday.

## Mariupol doc screened for 1st time in Ukraine

KYIV, Ukraine (AP)—The award-winning film "20 Days in Mariupol" made its premiere in Ukraine on Saturday, seen for the first time by some of the Ukrainian medics and first responders who were chronicled in the documentary about how Russian forces bombed and blasted their way into the southeastern port city last year.

Repeated standing ovations in a packed Kyiv cinema, mixed with tears and hugs, greeted

those Ukrainian civil servants who toiled nearly non-stop in and around a Mariupol hospital that was a centerpiece of the film about the city early on in Russia's full-scale invasion of Ukraine on Feb. 24, 2022.

For some, the screening served as an unsettling flashback to their own brush with death in the city—a fate incapable for untold numbers of other victims of Russia's invasion, including toddlers, infants

and expectant mothers whose final moments were caught on video shown in the film.

"It was very hard emotionally because it reminded me of when we were leaving Mariupol, there were still a lot of casualties," said Serhii Chornobrivets, 25, an ambulance worker who treated countless patients in the city, and is now a military medic. "I could have saved more people, but I didn't."

## Finances front and center amid child support debate

**DEAR ABBY:** I have a child with a woman I'll call "Kara," who is now my ex-wife. Our son lives full time with me and my new wife, whom I married three years ago. Kara was diagnosed with schizophrenia five or six years ago, which is what ultimately led to our divorce. She has only recently been able to keep a job despite her condition, which is only being moderately well-managed, but she has a pretty good one now.

Kara spends almost all her money on herself and rarely spends a day with our son without me present. I'm considering asking the court for child support payments, but I worry that because of her mental health issues, she'll end up taking it out on our child.

She's never been a very good parent, largely because of her illness, and she lived with us for almost a year because I didn't have the heart to see her homeless. I don't make a lot of money myself. I've been disabled for quite some time, and the extra income would make a big difference in our son's quality of life.

Am I wrong to request a child support judgment? If Kara loses her job, it could mean jail time, which would be devastating to her, but I don't believe she would comply with an informal request. I could really use some sound advice.

STRUGGLING IN THE SOUTH

■■■

**DEAR STRUGGLING:** I agree, you do need advice, and the person you should seek it from is an attorney who specializes in family law. From what you have written, Kara

appears to be doing the best she can just to get by as are you. You did not mention whether your new wife is employed. If the answer is no, because finances are strapped right now, would she be willing to find a job or part-time work in order to make things easier for your son? If she could, it might relieve some of your stress.

■■■

**DEAR ABBY:** I'm living in my father's home along with my younger sister. I'm currently looking for work so I can move out. My plan had been to look for roommates online, but my sister wants us to get a place together. Everyone else in our life agrees that this would be the best idea. I do not want to do this.

I am honestly afraid of my sister. She has a hair-trigger temper that she keeps in check for other people but will fully unleash on me. I try to have fun with her, and sometimes I do, but I inevitably become the target of her anger for reasons I can never predict. I'm afraid to speak to her for more than a few minutes because she twists almost everything I say into an attack on her, even the most lighthearted things.

She is also careless with my property and has already damaged some of my things. She triggers my anxiety to the point that I can't think straight. I mostly just hide from her. Yet she still insists that we should live together, and is complaining more and more about how my financial situation is preventing her from moving out as soon as she likes.

How on Earth do I approach this? No matter what I say to our

## DEAR ABBY

BY ABIGAIL VAN BUREN  
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at [www.DearAbby.com](http://www.DearAbby.com) or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.



family, no one can offer advice, and it seems like no one is on my side. It makes me want to cry.

BREAKING FREE IN ARIZONA

■■■

**DEAR BREAKING:** Your sister appears to have mental problems that none of the rest of the family wants to acknowledge. Under these circumstances she should absolutely not move in with you. To avoid it, you must grit your teeth, dry your tears and keep saying no.

To receive a collection of Abby's most memorable – and most frequently requested – poems and essays, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for \$8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Keepers Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)



Pastimes

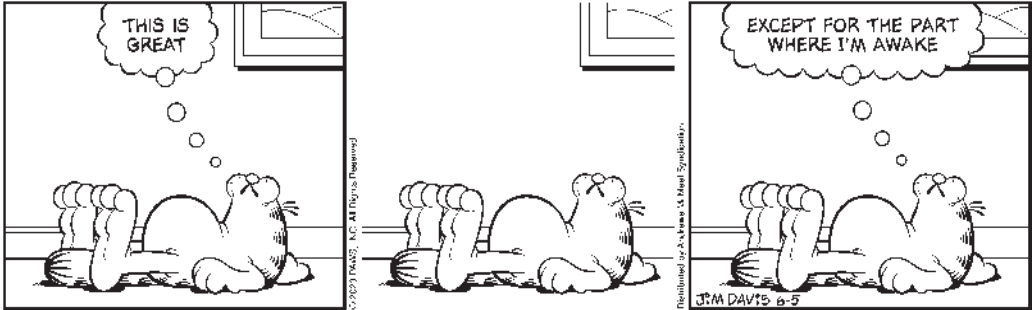
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson



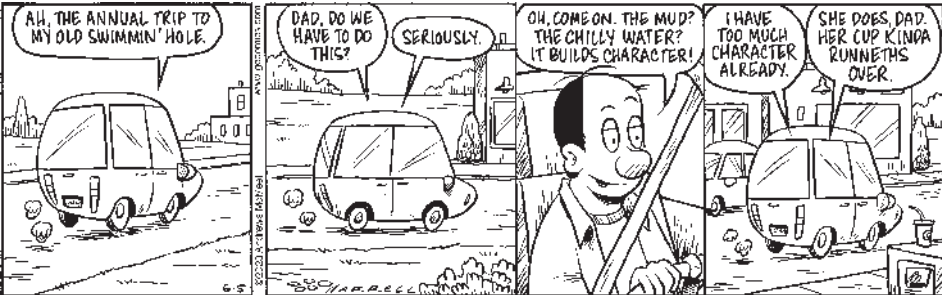
Garfield®

By Jim Davis



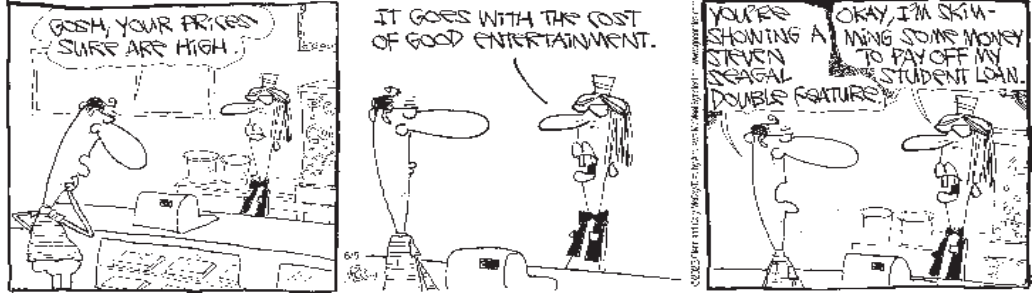
Adam@home

By Bryan Basset



The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy



CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

ACROSS

1 Biol. or chem.

4 Founda-

7 Group of quail

11 Gunk

13 "— Little Teapot"

14 Actor Sharif

15 "Toodle-oo!"

16 Occupa-

17 Inning ends

18 Desolate

20 Actress Harper

22 Beer barrel

24 Going together

28 Many June babies

32 Strung along

33 Code-breaker Turing

34 Texter's chuckle

36 Novelist Jaffe

37 Promotes

39 Kate of "Titanic"

41 Earth tremors

43 Homer's cry

44 Bits of wit

46 "Little —" (Alcott novel)

50 Martial art

53 Wanted poster abbr.

55 Ersatz swing

56 "Be that — may ..."

57 Brooch

58 Leisurely

59 Hanker-

60 CIA operative

61 Superla-

19 Under-

21 Erie Canal

23 Base-

25 Pop star

26 Zilch

27 Bitty

28 Openings

29 "Legally Blonde"

30 Hawaiian island

31 Plant seeds

35 Cover

38 Dallas sch.

40 At once

42 Ginger cookies

45 Leave out

47 Race distance

48 Cupid's alias

49 Sala-

50 Blue bird

51 Exploit

52 Cacoph-

54 Whatever

31 LAPD ranks

2 Paint

3 Speck

4 Chest

5 Send forth

6 Stunned

7 Follow-up

8 Outback bird

9 Dyeing vessel

10 Gen. parts

12 Spaces in a lot

13 TIPIN MAI AIM

14 ALANA SPANGLE

15 NACHOS AMAL

16 BAD TEL DRAFT

17 ODES ADMIN

18 BOXCAR EDISON

19 ROTH'S APPS

20 CAMILISTIAIA

21 ISEE OHIOAN

22 SPANISH TRIAL

23 SIN OI SIIVI

24 YES NOH YALES

Last Friday's Answer 06/05

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Mike Fisher, 43; Liza Weil, 46; Mark Wahlberg, 52; Jeff Garlin, 61.

**Happy Birthday:** Make your money stretch this year, and do your best to pay off debt. Don't listen to the hype or take someone's word as gospel. Do what feels best and right for you. Let experience guide you and adaptability be your strength. Organizing, practicing and recognizing what's essential will make your journey a success. Choose your battles wisely and use your imagination to find solutions. Your numbers are 8, 14, 20, 29, 33, 36, 45.

**ARIES (March 21-April 19):** Don't overdo it. Stick to a reasonable budget and plan. Don't jeopardize your health or relationships. Gather information and map a path that encourages support instead of interference. Once you gain momentum, the rest will be history.

**TAURUS (April 20-May 20):** Decide; confusion will be what sabotages your plans. Make your intentions clear, and avoid adding extras to your to-do list. Keeping things simple will minimize your chance of falling short of your goal. Discipline and hard work will suffice.

**GEMINI (May 21-June 20):** Awareness will make a difference. Check out the pros and cons of whatever you encounter. Make a decision based on realism and the skills you must have to get things to run smoothly. Pay attention to detail, and oversee every aspect of your plans.

**CANCER (June 21-July 22):** Opportunity is apparent. Make a pitch, set up meetings and reach out to experts with something to offer. Your ability to articulate and get your

point across will grab the attention of someone with plenty to offer. Romance and personal gain are favored.

**LEO (July 23-Aug. 22):** A friendly attitude will break down any barriers you face personally or professionally. Be willing to go above and beyond the call of duty. Don't promise more than you can deliver; offer consistency to avoid a negative response. Nurture meaningful partnerships.

**VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22):** Gather information and apply knowledge and experience to your pursuits. You can accomplish plenty if you embrace change and discard any negativity you encounter. It's up to you to decide how happy you are and to share your joy with others.

**LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22):** Look at every angle and how your decisions will affect others. Kindness is a decision that can make or break someone's day. Thinking ahead will help you avoid financial loss. Don't commit to anything without crunching the numbers first.

**SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21):** Take a unique approach to handling older individuals. Find a creative way to express your feelings and offer solutions. If you let your actions speak for you, a lot will come to light. Personal gain is within reach.

**SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21):** Size down, sell off what you don't need and don't make a snap decision that can lead to ongoing costs. Learn to say no and to offer suggestions, time and your skills to those you want to help. Protect your possessions and relationships.

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19):** Stay focused on what you are trying to achieve; the results and praise you get will encourage you to do more. Home improvements and events promoting learning and exploring possibilities will lead to positive change and stability.

**AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18):** Bide your time, review details and leave no room for error. How you handle a friend, relative or colleague will make a difference in the outcome. Remain calm and stick to the facts to maintain your integrity and reputation.

**PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20):** Handle your cash carefully. An excess in funds will leave you in a vulnerable position. Don't feel you must pay for others or make excuses for following your gut feeling. Choose your words wisely; you will impact how things unfold.

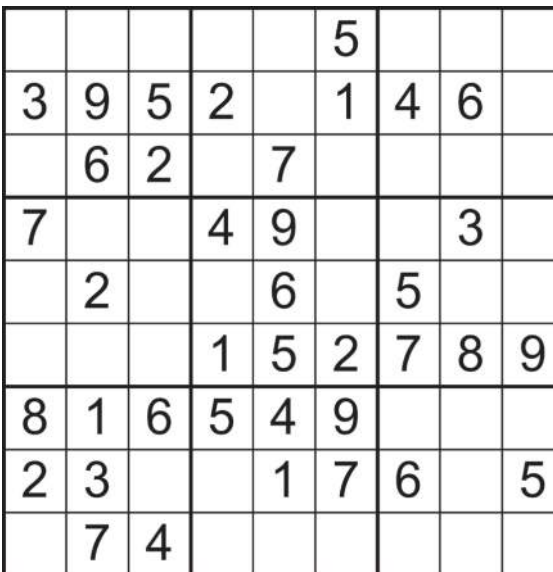
**Birthday Baby:** You are accommodating, curious and enthusiastic. You are proactive and generous.

☾: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ☼: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ☼☼: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ☼☼☼: Aim high; start new projects. ☼☼☼☼: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

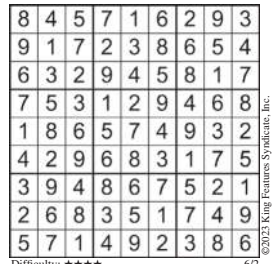
Conceptis Sudoku

By Dave Green



Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Friday's Answer



Difficulty: ★ 6/5 ©2012 Conceptis Puzzles, Dist. by King Features Syndicate, Inc.

STUMPED?

For answers to today's crossword, call 1-800-226-5955! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the WONDERWORD.

ACCOUNT STATEMENTS Solution: 8 letters

M E S S A G E C N A R U S N I  
O O R G A N I Z E T O T A L N  
N P N B U L A I C I F F O D O  
I I U T U I T I O N E A E O I  
T H P R H S T U D E N T S L T  
O S D E C L O S S O A S Y L A  
R R A V K H Y N I A E R A C  
E A T E C K A T L I V O R I  
T L E N O A C S E I N N T R F  
A O M U T A R A E C N I S E I  
L H I E S E W D R T I E I B T  
P C T N R E P A P T A O H M N  
M S A V I N G S R S S X V U E  
E R E M O T S U C D S P E N D  
T N E M Y A P R O C E E D S I

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Last Friday's Answer: Team  
To purchase WONDERWORD books, visit www.WonderWordBooks.com, or call 1-800-642-6460. (In Canada, call 1-855-232-2367)



# Aaron Judge stars as Yankees beat Dodgers, 6-3



**L O S  
A N G E -  
L E S**  
(AP) —

Aaron Judge hit his 19th homer and made an outstanding catch in the corner in right, and Gerrit Cole stayed unbeaten with six innings of four-hit ball before leaving early in the New York Yankees' 6-3 victory over the Los Angeles Dodgers on Saturday.

Jake Bauers hit two two-run homers for the Yankees, who rebounded from an 8-4 loss Friday night in the opener of the high-profile inter-league series.

Cole (7-0) was sharp back in his native Southern California, striking out five with two walks and only allowing a run on David Peralta's bloop RBI single. But the Yankees pulled Cole after a season-low 80 pitches, apparently due to cramping.

Clay Holmes pitched the ninth for his sixth save.

Michael Grove (0-2) yielded four runs over five innings for the Dodgers.

## **RED SOX 8, RAYS 5, GAME 1 RAYS 4, RED SOX 2, GAME 2**

**BOSTON** (AP)—Harold Ramirez hit a tiebreaking two-run double in the ninth inning and Jose Siri made a diving catch for the final out, helping Tampa Bay to a split of the day-night doubleheader.

Ramirez collected five hits on the day and drove in four runs for the major league-leading Rays (41-19), who won for just the third time in seven games.

In the opener, Justin Turner's three-run double highlighted Boston's six-run sixth inning that carried the Red Sox to an 8-5 victory. Corey Kluber (3-6) got the win, and Kenley Jansen pitched the ninth for his 12th save.

The nightcap was tied at 2 when Francisco Mejia and Yandy Diaz opened the ninth with consecutive singles against Jansen (1-3). Mejia and Diaz advanced on Brandon Lowe's fly to right and scored on Ramirez's liner into the gap in right-center.

Calvin Faucher (1-1) worked a scoreless inning for the victory, and Jason Adam got the three outs for his eighth save. Siri closed it out with his diving grab on Jarren Duran's bloop with two runners on.

Wander Franco had three hits for Tampa Bay in the first game. Jalen Beeks (2-3) got the loss.

## **WHITE SOX 2, TIGERS 1, 10 INNINGS**

**CHICAGO** (AP)—Yoán Moncada scampered home on



New York Yankees shortstop Anthony Volpe (11) celebrates with right fielder Aaron Judge, center, after a 6-3 win over the Los Angeles Dodgers in a baseball game in Los Angeles, Saturday, June 3, 2023.

a 10th-inning wild pitch that knocked down umpire Cory Blaser, sending the White Sox to the victory.

All three runs in the game were scored on wild pitches.

The White Sox had the bases loaded with two out when José Cisnero (2-1) threw a first-pitch fastball to Tim Anderson that hit Blaser right in the face mask.

Andrew Benintendi had two hits for the White Sox, who have won three of four. Reynaldo López (1-4) threw a scoreless 10th.

Zack McKinstry tripled and scored for the Tigers.

## **RANGERS 16, MARINERS 6**

**ARLINGTON, Texas** (AP)—Marcus Semien, Leody Taveras, Nathaniel Lowe and Mitch Garver homered, and Texas won for the fourth time in five games.

Semien had four hits, scored four times and drove in three runs. He extended his career-best hitting streak to 22 games, longest in the majors this season.

Corey Seager had three hits and three RBIs as the Rangers scored at least 10 runs in a majors-leading 15th game. Josh Sborz (2-2) got the win.

Ty France had three hits for Seattle, and Teoscar Hernández had two hits and two RBIs. Bryan Woo (0-1) was charged with six runs and seven hits in two innings in his big league debut.

## **BRAVES 5, DIAMONDBACKS 2**

**PHOENIX** (AP)—Ronald Acuña Jr. hit a 464-foot home run, Spencer Strider struck out seven in six effective innings and Atlanta ended Arizona's six-game winning streak.

Marcell Ozuna and Edie Rosario had run-scoring

singles against Rhyné Nelson (2-4) to help the Braves go up 3-0 through five innings. Atlanta scored another run on a double play in the sixth inning and Acuña followed by hitting his 12th homer onto the concourse behind the seats in left-center.

Strider (6-2) allowed two runs on three hits with four walks. Raisel Iglesias worked around a single in the ninth for his sixth save in seven chances.

## **PADRES 6, CUBS 0**

**SAN DIEGO** (AP)—Yu Darvish struck out nine in seven dominant innings, Fernando Tatis Jr. homered twice and San Diego beat Chicago.

Darvish (4-4) had a masterful bounce-back game after a bad outing May 28 when he gave up seven runs in 2 2/3 innings in a 10-7 loss at the New York Yankees. Against the Cubs, Darvish was in complete command and kept the hitters off-balance all night, giving up just two singles — Chicago's only hits of the game — and one walk.

Cubs starter Drew Smyly (5-3) took the loss, lasting 5 2/3 innings, giving up three runs and seven hits.

## **BLUE JAYS 2, METS 1**

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Vladimir Guerrero Jr. hit an RBI double in the ninth inning, leading Toronto to the victory.

Guerrero's big hit came three pitches after Blue Jays manager John Schneider was ejected for arguing balls and strikes. Umpire Charlie Ramos called the first pitch of Guerrero's at-bat, which appeared to land low and out of the strike zone, a strike. Schneider shouted at Ramos from the dugout and was tossed before coming out and arguing at the plate.

Mets closer David Robertson (2-1) got ahead of Guerrero 1-2 before the Blue Jays star doubled down the left-field line to score George Springer, who singled with one out and stole second base.

Nate Pearson (2-0) got the win, and Erik Swanson earned his first save.

## **ASTROS 9, ANGELS 6**

**HOUSTON** (AP)—Alex Bregman hit a grand slam and Chas McCormick homered to help Houston to its third consecutive victory.

The Astros broke it open with a five-run fourth, capped by Bregman's eighth homer. Martín Maldonado, Mauricio Dubón and Jeremy Peña loaded the bases on three straight singles before Yordan Alvarez had an RBI infield hit to end Angels starter Patrick Sandoval's day.

Bregman, who also walked a career-high-tying four times, greeted Jacob Webb with his fifth career grand slam. The homer extended Bregman's hitting streak to 10 games.

Houston's Cristian Javier (7-1) pitched six innings of one-run ball.

Shohei Ohtani had four hits and Hunter Renfroe homered for the Angels. Sandoval (3-5) was tagged for six runs in 3 1/3 innings.

## **GUARDIANS 4, TWINS 2**

**MINNEAPOLIS** (AP)—Will Brennan hit the first homer allowed this season by Sonny Gray in the seventh inning and Logan Allen pitched six strong innings for Cleveland.

Brennan drove in three runs and Andrés Giménez and Gabriel Arias each reached base three times in front of him. Steven Kwan added a solo homer in the ninth for Cleveland, which had lost three of four.

Allen (3-2) allowed a lead-off homer to Jorge Polanco in the first and then settled in, giving up seven hits and two runs. Emmanuel Clase got three outs for his MLB-leading 18th save.

Gray (4-1) gave up a season-high 10 hits in 6 2/3 innings. He tied a season high with three runs allowed.

## **PIRATES 4, CARDINALS 3**

**PITTSBURGH** (AP)—Ke'Bryan Hayes homered for the second straight game, leading Pittsburgh to its fourth consecutive victory.

Connor Joe hit a tiebreaking two-run double for the Pirates in the sixth. Carlos Santana added a run-scoring single.

Pittsburgh's bullpen held firm after an hour rain-delay ended starter Luis Ortiz's day early. Dauri Moreta (3-1) struck out Willson Contreras with two on to end the top of the sixth. David Bednar worked the ninth for his 12th save.

Contreras hit his sixth homer of the season off Ortiz in the second. Nolan Gorman hit a two-run shot in the eighth to bring the Cardinals within one. Jordan Montgomery (2-7) got the loss.

## **BREWERS 10, REDS 8**

**CINCINNATI** (AP)—Blake Perkins hit a grand slam for his first career homer and drove in five runs, helping the Brewers top the Reds.

William Contreras also went deep in Milwaukee's third win in four games. Colin Rea (3-3) pitched five innings of three-run ball for the NL Central leaders, and Devin Williams earned his 10th save.

Brewers first baseman Jon Singleton went 1 for 4 and scored a run in his first major league game since 2015 with Houston.

Jonathan India drove in three runs for Cincinnati, and rookie Matt McLain finished with two hits and scored three times.

The Reds have dropped three in a row since a five-game win streak. They had 11 hits, 10 walks and nine steals, but were unable to overcome another shaky start by Graham Ashcraft (3-4).

## **PHILLIES 4, NATIONALS 2**

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—J.T. Realmuto hit a tiebreaking homer in the sixth inning, and the Phillies snapped a five-game losing streak.

Realmuto, Bryce Harper and Josh Harrison each had two hits for Philadelphia. Dylan Covey (1-1) worked two innings for the win, and Craig Kimbrel pitched the

ninth for his eighth save.

Realmuto doubled and scored in the second before homering into the Phillies bullpen in left-center leading off the sixth.

Washington starter Mackenzie Gore (3-4) went six innings and gave up three runs and nine hits.

## **MARLINS 12, ATHLETICS 1**

**MIAMI** (AP)—Luis Arraez had a career-high five hits and five RBIs, sending Miami to the win.

The majors' leading hitter, Arraez hit three doubles and two singles to raise his average to .390. Arraez also became the first player in franchise history with five hits and five RBIs in a game.

Joey Wendle doubled twice and singled for the Marlins, who finished with 14 hits. Rookie Eury Pérez (3-1) threw five scoreless innings, and George Soriano got nine outs for his first major league save.

The A's dropped to a major league-worst 12-48 and lost their 13th straight on the road.

Oakland starter Luis Medina (0-5) gave up six runs and six hits in two-plus innings.

## **ROCKIES 6, ROYALS 4**

**KANSAS CITY, Mo.** (AP)—Elehuris Montero hit a two-run triple in Colorado's five-run first inning.

Matt Carasiti (1-0) earned the win with 2 1/3 scoreless innings in relief of starter Austin Gomber. Justin Lawrence recorded four outs for his second save.

Royals starter Daniel Lynch (0-1) was charged with five runs, three earned, and six hits in five innings.

Nick Pratto homered for Kansas City. Bobby Witt Jr. had three singles, but he also committed a first-inning error that led to two unearned runs.

The Royals have lost 14 of 19.

## **GIANTS 4, ORIOLES 0**

**SAN FRANCISCO** (AP)—Alex Cobb struck out seven over 7 2/3 scoreless innings to bounce back from his worst outing of the season, Wilmer Flores hit a two-run single and also doubled, and San Francisco topped Baltimore.

J.D. Davis added an RBI single in the decisive third inning against Orioles right-hander Kyle Bradish (2-2) and pinch-hitter Austin Slater gave the Giants another run-scoring single in the sixth.

Cobb (5-2) was coming off a loss May 28 at Minnesota in which he was tagged for seven runs on seven hits in four innings and walked four. He is now 8-2 over 14 career outings against the Orioles.



# Heat look to get to line more; Nuggets vow to be better in Game 2



**DENVER** (AP)—For the Miami Heat, shooting at Denver's 5,280 feet of mile-high altitude during Game 1 of the NBA Finals wasn't a problem.

Not shooting from 15 feet—the distance from the basket to the foul line—was.

The Heat made NBA history, and not the good kind, by shooting only two free throws in Game 1 as Denver struck first in the title series with a 104-93 win. It was the fewest free throw attempts ever by a team in a playoff game and makes one of the adjustments for Game 2 on Sunday simple to forecast: Expect Miami to go into attack mode.

"The attacks, we didn't have enough of them," said Heat coach Erik Spoelstra, whose team sent Denver to the line for 20 free throws in

Game 1. "I thought the free throw disparity was appropriate. Maybe we could have got two, four, six more based on a call here or a call there. But overall our attack numbers were lower, and that usually translates into lower free throw attempts."

Adjustments at playoff time are considered some mystical thing, as if a team is going to completely reinvent itself during the day or two between games. They're usually nothing more than minor tweaks, maybe a lineup change, a slight shift in how a pick-and-roll is defended.

The Nuggets are used to this by now. They are 4-0 in Game 1s in these playoffs—having led them by 32, 25, 21 and 24 points, respectively. And the teams that lost those games, obviously, had the infamous adjustments to make going into Game 2.



Miami Heat head coach Erik Spoelstra responds to a question at a news conference before practice for Game 2 of the NBA Finals, Saturday, June 3, 2023, in Denver.

They worked. Sort of. Denver's biggest leads in the three Game 2s it has played so far are 21, 12 and 12 points. That's less than the Game 1 margins, but not enough to affect the outcome. The Nuggets are 3-0 in those games, too.

And if you think that has Nuggets coach Michael Malone at ease, well, think again.

"I told our players today, don't read the paper, don't listen to the folks on the radio and TV saying that this series is over and that we've

done something, because we haven't done a damn thing," Malone said. "We won Game 1. The reason I told our players I was excited this morning is because we won Game 1 and we didn't play well, and there's so many things we can do better. If we do those things at a better level, we'll have a chance to win Game 2."

There's always things to do better. Even for Nikola Jokic and Jamal Murray, believe it or not.

They joined Magic Johnson and James Worthy, in

1987, as the only teammates to have at least 25 points and 10 assists in the same finals game—and the Nuggets' duo did it in their finals debut. Jokic had a 27-point triple-double, Murray finished with 26, and the stage was clearly not too big for Denver's two best players.

Denver is also trying to be the first team to start a postseason 10-0 at home since Boston in 2018.

"You just try to win every game. It's first to four, no matter how you get it done,"

Murray said. "Obviously, you want to take advantage of being at home. Love playing at home. But any game you can win, you take. So, yeah, we're looking forward to just winning every single game that we play."

This is Miami's first 1-0 deficit of the postseason. The Heat won Game 1s on the road in Milwaukee, New York and Boston on their way to the finals; no team had ever won four Game 1s away from home in the same postseason.

And while the Nuggets are saying—correctly, too—that they missed plenty of open shots, the Heat can absolutely point to that as a way they'll improve in Game 2. Max Strus (0 for 10), Caleb Martin (1 for 7) and Duncan Robinson (1 for 6) were a combined 2 for 23 from the floor in Game 1, 2 for 16 from 3-point range.

That would be the simplest and most effective adjustment Miami could make for Sunday—make shots.

"I'm going to continue play the right way. I'm going to pass the ball to my shooters the way I have been playing the entire playoffs, the entire year," said Heat forward Jimmy Butler, who scored 13 in Game 1, his lowest-scoring game so far in these playoffs.

"But I think I've got to be more aggressive putting pressure on the rim," he said. "I think that makes everybody's job a lot easier. They definitely follow suit whenever I'm aggressive on both sides of the ball. So, I have to be the one to come out and kick that off the right way—which I will—and we'll see where we end up."

## Source: Suns hire Vogel to lead franchise

**PHOENIX** (AP)—The Phoenix Suns hired former NBA champion coach Frank Vogel on Friday to replace Monty Williams, a person with knowledge of the decision told The Associated Press.

The person spoke to the AP on condition of anonymity because the team had not announced the move.

The 49-year-old Vogel has been the coach of the Indiana Pacers, Orlando Magic and Los Angeles Lakers during his career and now moves to the Suns, where he'll try to help the franchise win its first title in its 55-year history with a roster that includes stars Kevin Durant, Devin Booker and Chris Paul.

Vogel led the Lakers to an NBA title in 2020 when the league finished its season in the Florida bubble. He has a 431-389 career record over 11 seasons and a 49-39 mark in the playoffs.

Phoenix fired Williams on May 13 despite four successful seasons, including an NBA Finals appearance in 2021 and a coach of the year award in 2022. But the Suns also experienced two straight embarrassing playoff exits — trailing by 30 points at halftime of elimination games at home.

The Suns were tied to several candidates during their nearly three-week search, including assistant Kevin Young and bigger names like Nick Nurse and Doc Rivers. On Friday, they settled on Vogel, who is known for his defensive acumen.

He's also well-versed in coaching superstar players,

helping LeBron James to his most recent title.

New Suns owner Mat Ishbia hasn't been shy about shaking up the franchise since he took over in February, adding the 13-time All-Star Durant in a blockbuster trade deadline deal. Despite the bold move, the Suns lost in the second round of the playoffs to the Denver Nuggets.

Now Ishbia has overseen a coaching change and it remains to be seen how aggressive the front office will be in reshaping the roster. The assumption is that Booker — a three-time All-Star who averaged nearly 36 points per game in a brilliant postseason performance — and Durant will be back.

The rest of the roster is in flux.

The biggest questions surround Paul and former No. 1 draft pick Deandre Ayton, who were both out with injuries by the end of the playoffs.

The 38-year-old Paul was solid when he was on the court for the Suns this season, but his body gave out again in the playoffs and he missed the final four games with a strained left groin. He's under contract for next season with a partially guaranteed deal.

The 24-year-old Ayton was ineffective in the team's second-round series against the Nuggets, averaging 10.8 points and 8.2 rebounds, which were both well below his season and career averages. He suffered a rib contusion in Game 5 and watched the final game of the season from the bench.

## Detroit Pistons announce deal with new coach Monty Williams

**DETROIT** (AP)—Monty Williams is taking over the Detroit Pistons.

The team said Friday it reached an agreement with Williams to fill its coaching vacancy. Terms of the deal were not announced, but a person familiar with the situation told the AP on Wednesday night it was a six-year contract.

The person spoke on condition of anonymity because the move had not been announced at the time.

"After spending some time with Monty, it's clear that he's found a unique balance between achieving victory at the highest level while at the same time nurturing a culture of growth, development and inspiration," Pistons owner Tom Gores said. "I'm beyond excited. This is a huge win for us."

The 51-year-old Williams was fired by Phoenix on May 13, two years after reaching the NBA Finals and a year af-

ter he won the league's coach of the year honors.

Williams won 63% of his games over four regular seasons with the Suns, but they were eliminated in the Western Conference semifinals two years in a row after losing to Milwaukee in the 2021 NBA Finals.

Williams will be formally introduced at a news conference in Detroit next week. He said he made the decision to sign on with the Pistons after a series of conversations with Gores, general manager Troy Weaver and other Pistons executives.

"A week ago, I was not sure what the future would hold," Williams said in the team's release. "But, after talking with Tom and Troy, I was excited hearing their vision for the Pistons going forward. They had a thoughtful plan and I am so appreciative of the emphasis they placed on the personal side of this business. They

showed tremendous consideration for me and my family throughout this process."

Detroit won an NBA-low 17 games last season, and Dwane Casey stepped down as coach with one year left on his contract to take a role in the front office.

The Pistons did not have good fortune in the draft lottery, landing the No. 5 pick overall for the second straight year and missing out on an opportunity to draft 7-foot-3 French pro Victor Wembanyama, 19, who is expected to be the first overall pick of the San Antonio Spurs.

Detroit, a three-time NBA champion, has earned a spot in the playoffs just twice in 14 years. The Pistons have not won a postseason game since 2008, when they advanced to the Eastern Conference finals for the sixth straight time during a remarkable run that included winning the 2004 NBA title and falling a game short

of repeating as champions.

Jaden Ivey and Jalen Duren, the No. 5 and No. 13 pick overall last summer, did provide hope for the future with their play last season. Cade Cunningham, the No. 1 pick overall in 2021, had his second season cut short by shin surgery.

Williams is 367-336 in nine seasons as an NBA head coach with a 29-27 postseason record. He had a five-year stint with the New Orleans Pelicans, who fired him in 2015 with a 173-221 record and two playoff appearances.

"Monty represented the ideal prototype for our young team, but we didn't expect him to be available," Weaver said in the release. "When he suddenly became available, we jumped at the opportunity to speak with him. That doesn't mean the others in our process were not strong candidates. They were. But Monty is the prototype."



# CNMI badminton players go thru developmental program

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

Robbie Thackham, Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania, and Australian badminton players Jacob Schueler and Louisa Ma held a developmental program for NMI juniors and senior players last Friday and Saturday at the TSL Complex.

About 24 junior players between 12 and 19 years old and 12 senior players had the chance to learn new skills and upgrade their game during the program.

The training focused on a lot of technical skills.

"A lot of these players are quite new, so it's just evaluating where they are and are doing a little bit of work with them, because we're not here for that long, but then working with the Northern Marianas coaches to then keep working on progressions for them to help develop them further," said Thackham.

The key thing they worked on is footwork and movement, said Thackham. "Making sure they start to move correctly, and then the technical skills with their racket—putting them in groups and just changing what they're doing on court a little bit."

"They pick things up quite fast, they're willing to change and try something



Robbie Thackham, Coaching and Development manager for Badminton Oceania, far right, Australian badminton player, Jacob Schueler, far left, and Australian badminton player, Louisa Ma, fifth from right, pose for a photo before they hold the developmental program for the CNMI's senior badminton players last Friday at the TSL Complex.

different," said Thackham on the NMI players' level of play. "I think that they just probably haven't had as much training as a lot of the other countries. That will come with time but they're quite positive and willing to try new things and make changes," he said.

Schueler agreed and said, "They're keen to learn and try and work hard."

Schueler and Ma both assisted Thackham with coaching and Thackham said they're good role models for the participants in the program.

Thackham thanked the Northern Marianas Badminton Association for giving them the opportunity to coach NMI players. "It's good of them to do that. It makes a big difference to give these

guys opportunities," he said. They also thanked the Tan Siu Lin Foundation for supporting the program and for

the accommodations.

Ma, who will be playing in the tournament, said "the weather's very different. It's

## Track and Field Open Challenge this Friday, Saturday

By LEIGH GASES

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REPORTER

The Northern Marianas Athletics Association is hosting its Track and Field Open Challenge Road to Oceania Cup 2023 this Friday, June 9, and Saturday, June 10, at the Oleai Track and Field.

On Friday, the events are set to start at 5:30pm.

The events that day are the javelin throw, long jump, 100m sprints, 1,500m, 400m, and

3,000m steeplechase.

On Saturday, the events start at 4pm.

The events are the shot put throw, 800m, 200m, discus, 3,000m, and 4x100m relay.

Robin Sapong, NMA general secretary, said of this meet, "As we approach the OAA Cup, this will be a good pre-competition meet preparation for our local athletes and coaches. From NMA officials, it is considered a dry run."

To register, click on the link: <https://raceroster.com/events/2023/76465/nma-track-and-field-open-challenge>

Based on evaluation of ath-

winter in Australia and the weather in Melbourne's really cold, so coming here is a big change. So, I'm still adjusting to that. And we haven't seen the tournament hall yet, so it'll be good to see what that is like and the conditions might be a little different there."

Schueler, for his part, said that he's ready. "I'm looking forward to playing. They got some top players from Korea, Taiwan, and Japan, so we'll see how we go against them, and just looking forward to playing on the international circuit."

Both Ma and Schueler said they are looking forward to watching Kevin Cordon, a Guatemalan player, play as he had a very good run in the last Olympics.

The NMI is hosting back-to-back 2024 Paris Olympic Games qualifying tournaments starting tomorrow, Tuesday, June 6. The qualifying round games will run from 3pm to 4pm, while main draw games will follow suit and take place until 9pm.

Wednesday's action will be from 10am to 9pm; Thursday's games are from 12pm to 9pm; and Friday is from 1pm to 9pm. Semis matches on Saturday will be from 1pm to 9pm, while finals in the men's and women's singles and men's, women's, and mixed doubles are slated for Sunday, June 11, from 12pm to 5pm. The same schedule will be in effect for the Saipan International 2023.

across the Pacific.

Oceania Athletics has selected teams representing each region of the Pacific—Micronesia, Polynesia, and Melanesia, with the Northern Marianas and Australia the only two federations having their own team.

Twelve gold medalists from the 2022 Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games are coming back to Saipan. The Oceania Cup also provides an opportunity to qualify for the Budapest World Championships and Paris Olympics, with the same number of ranking points as the 2023 Pacific Games.

## BADMINTON

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in the men's singles said he is looking forward to a great tournament and a tough competition, as he knows there are a lot of Asian players coming in and they are known to be tough competitors.

One of Cordon's rivals is fellow Olympian Son Wan Ho, who arrived Sunday early morning with 12 other South Koreans. Another player to watch is

Jeon Hyeok, who was part of the Korean crew that finished runner-up in the TOTAL BWF World Mixed Team Championships. Chinese-Taipei joins the mix and had its first batch out of the 63 athletes coming in also yesterday morning, including women's No. 1 seed Sung Shuo Yun. Singapore brought a young team, while Finland, Vietnam, and Poland also have young players.

"Our players competing here are in the 19-24 age group. They've been to many tourna-

ments in Asia, but this is their first time to compete in an Olympic qualifier and this is a good experience for them," said Peksiah Lim, one of the coaches of Singapore.

Meanwhile, the bulk of the participants in the Olympic qualifier double-header were scheduled to arrive early this morning. The more than 100 players and officials are from Japan, Chinese-Taipei, New Zealand, Canada, Australia, India, Malaysia, and Thailand.

"A warm welcome to our

visiting players and guests representing five continents. This is the first time that we are hosting an Olympic qualifier in badminton and we are pleased that we were able to have a lot of participants. We look forward to watching many exciting games, as we really have a very competi-

tive field," NMBA president Merlie Tolentino said.

Opening matches in the Northern Marianas Open will start on Tuesday at 3pm and run until 9pm.

Day 2 (June 7) games will be from 10am to 9pm; Day 3 (June 8) is from 12nn to 9pm; and Day 4 (June 9) is from

1pm to 9pm. Semis matches on June 10 will be from 1pm to 9pm, while finals in the men's and women's singles and men's, women's, and mixed doubles are slated for Sunday, June 11, from 12pm to 5pm. The same schedule will be in effect for the Saipan International 2023. (PR)

## NEW

From Page 20

work and after the third quarter both teams were back to square one at 59-all.

That set up an epic final 10 minutes of the playoff contest, as New Changming Market and Puerto Rico Bento gave each other their best shots culminating in Santos' game-tying triple that eventually was answered resoundingly by Quan's cold-blooded free throw line deuce.

Jeff Castro went on to lead New Changming Market with 19 points, followed by

silky smooth forward Shane Deleon Guerrero's 14 points and Standish's 10 markers.

Center-forward Darryl Foronda tried to right the ship in Santos' absence and finished with a game-high 21 points, while Santos still wound up with 20 points in the loss.

New Changming Market, who beat JTM Saipan, 86-75, in its first playoff action, now takes on Martech-Of Aces, who beat The Game, 76-65, earlier in the week.

The winner of that semis tussle will advance to the finals, while the loser will square off against the winner of the match between Puerto

Rico Bento and The Game for the second slot for the championship.

Results of the masters division games last Thursday and Saturday will be published in tomorrow's issue of *Saipan Tribune*.

**New Changming Market 77** – Castro 19, Deleon Guerrero 14, Standish 10, Quan 8, Apasan 6, Santos 5, Almario 3, Montes 2, Gontar 2.

**Puerto Rico Bento 75** – Foronda 21, Santos 20, Fundador 12, Galang 12, Antonio 4, Hipolito 4, Estimado 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 24-14, 43-33, 59-59, 77-75.

## CAROL

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but Rajecki won the next two games to take the match, 6-3.

It's the first time a Georgia Tech player reached the NCAA Championship quarterfinals since 2010.

Lee told *Saipan Tribune* that she was elated to have advanced to the quarterfinals of the 2023 NCAA Singles Championship.

"I would like to thank my coaches who have supported me all the way, helped me and coached me. I would like to thank my teammates as well who have unconditionally supported me. I would also like to thank my parents who have supported and helped me. They watched every match I have played and stayed up really late and cheered me

on (due to a big gap in time zones). My dad especially, who also coached me even though we were far away from each other. Lastly, I would like to thank all my supporters back on Saipan," she said.

Lee said her plans after the 2023 NCAA Singles Championship is to train some more to prepare for her next tournaments.

"I'm planning to play some during the summer and represent Pacific Oceania in the Federation Cup coming up."

Georgia Tech women's tennis coach Rodney Harmon congratulated Lee for yet another successful season in college tennis.

"Carol played well this season and finished up by having a really good NCAA Championships. I sent her home with a short list of things to work on. I know

she is so excited to be home and spend time with her family," he said.

The college website added that Lee concluded a stellar 2023 season as an ITA Singles All-American, producing a 29-12 overall singles record, including a 17-7 dual record from the No. 1 position.

She was ranked in the Top 10 nationally of the ITA Rankings three times, climbing as high as No. 7 on March 21. In the fall season, she reached the finals of the ITA Southeast Regionals in both doubles and singles, capturing the doubles title with teammate Kate Shara-bura. Qualifying for the prestigious ITA National Fall Championships, Lee made a run to the semifinals to close out the fall tournament season.





Aaron Judge stars  
as Yankees beat  
Dodgers, 6-3.

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# Saipan Tribune Sports

CNMI badminton  
players go thru  
developmental  
program.

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SAIPAN TRIBUNE

## Badminton players arrive for Olympic qualifiers



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Olympian Kevin Cordon from Guatemala answers a question from a reporter before practicing at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium.



CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Singaporean players hold their practice session after arriving early Sunday morning. The visiting players will be competing in two 2024 Paris Olympic qualifying tournaments—the Northern Marianas Open and the Saipan International.

**B**adminton players from around the world arrived on Saipan over the weekend in time for the two 2024 Paris Olympic Games qualifying tournaments that the Northern Marianas Badminton Association will be hosting at the Gilbert C. Ada Gymnasium starting tomorrow, June 6.

Four-time Olympian Kevin Cordon of Guatemala led the more than 50 athletes and officials that arrived on Saipan from Friday to Sunday and were joined by delegations from

Singapore, South Korea, Finland, Poland, Chinese-Taipei, Vietnam, Belgium, and the United States. They will play first in the Crowne Plaza Northern Marianas Open 2023 that

will run from June 6 to 11 and they compete in the TakeCare Saipan International from June 13 to 18.

"I am excited to play, this is my second time in this region, having played in New Zealand before. The weather is nice, I was expecting it's very hot, but it's not. The venue is also

better than I expected. Before coming here, I competed in Mexico and the conditions and playing venue were tough," said Cordon, who made headlines for making it to the semifinals of the 2020 Tokyo Olympic Games held last year.

The tournament's top seed

See **BADMINTON** on **Page 19**

## Carol Lee reaches quarterfinals



Lee

By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Carol Lee reached the quarterfinals of the 2023 NCAA Singles Championship before bowing out against NC State's No. 26 Amelia Rajecki last May 25 at the USTA National Campus.

According to ramblinwreck.com, Georgia Institute of Technology's online sports website, the No. 26-ranked Rajecki grabbed an early lead in the opening

set, holding a 4-1 advantage before Lee climbed back to 4-3, winning the next two games. The opponents traded the next two games, setting up a 5-4 tally in favor of Rajecki, who served out the

set, 6-4. Lee erased an early 0-2 deficit to open the second set, moving back on serve at 2-all.

But Rajecki responded by winning the next two games for a 4-2 advantage. Lee held serve at deuce for a 4-3 tally,

See **CAROL** on **Page 19**

## New Changming Market nips Puerto Rico Bento

By **MARK RABAGO**  
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR



Sidney Quan buried a 15-footer from the top of the key with 3 seconds left to lift New Changming Market to a heart-stopping 77-75 victory against Puerto Rico Bento in the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

Puerto Rico Bento immediately sued for time after the Tenorio scion's bucket, but on the next play their inbound pass was deflected resulting in a mad scramble for the spheroid and Puerto Rico Bento wasn't able to attempt a shot as the time expired.

Moments before Quan's bail-out shot, Coby Santos tied things up with a booming triple from the left side of the



MARK RABAGO

New Changming Market's Alex Standish goes up of a layup against Puerto Rico Bento in the open division of the 2nd Annual Saipan Centennial Lions Basketball League last Saturday at the Civic Center Basketball Court.

3-point arc to knot the count at 75-all.

The dramatic finish appeared not in the cards early on as Puerto Rico Bento trailed early and often with Santos missing the early part of the contest as he was busy with work at the Taste of Marianas.

With the Micronesian Brokers Inc. employee filling cups rather than filling up the score sheet, New Changming Market raced to a 24-14 lead after one quarter of play.

They would maintain that lead in the second quarter as big man Alex Standish was unusually offensive-minded allowing New Changming Market to enter the halftime break with a 43-33 spread.

That all changed though when Santos entered the picture came the second half, as the CNMI national team pool aspirant immediately went to

See **NEW** on **Page 19**